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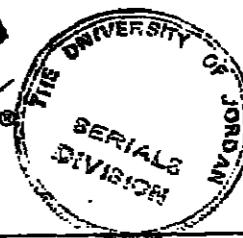
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Russia Claims Victory, But Facts Say Otherwise

Fighting in Chechnya Highlights Cracks In Moscow's Fragile Political Condition

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — Once again, Moscow has declared premature victory in secessionist Chechnya. If Pyrrhus were a Russian, he would recognize the landscape.

In the ninth week of Moscow's full-scale invasion, the Russian military has claimed that the capital, Grozny, is finally taken. Defense Ministry officials say they are

NEWS ANALYSIS

ready to withdraw the army and hand the city over to Interior Ministry troops.

The Russian press agency Itar-Tass announced with fanfare that Moscow's troops had crossed the Sunzha River and taken the Minutka roundabout, and then proclaimed: "This ends the organized resistance of fighters on the territory of the entire city."

On Thursday, at a Moscow airport, President Boris N. Yeltsin said of Chechnya: "The situation is developing normally."

Soldiers "are not involved in combat activities but are engaged in creative work," Mr. Yeltsin said, without defining the nature of the creation. "Interior Ministry units, in small groups, continue to disarm the militants," he added, while other ministries restore urban services and build houses.

Most of these assertions are dubious, however, fitting the pattern the Russian propaganda machine has cut for itself from the beginning of the invasion and raising new questions about the quality of the information Mr. Yeltsin is receiving.

As the Chechen fighting continues, much to the dismay of Russia's putative Western partners, it is holding up a spotlight to all the cracks in Russia's fragile political, military and economic condition.

"Chechnya has exposed and aggravated all the weaknesses of central and democratic institutions," a Western diplomat said. "It's just an enormous mess, a serious of bad choices that got bigger and badder."

In fact, according to Western reporters and other more objective Russian news agencies, like Interfax, the Russian Army has not taken Grozny or even encircled it. Russians are still fighting around Minutka, which is only 2.5 kilometers (1.5 miles) from the blackened ruins of the Presidential Palace and the central square.

They are still fighting their way into the southern part of the city. And there are many reports that Chechen units have moved in from the north, behind Russian lines, to harass them in the eviscerated city.

The Chechens have moved their military headquarters out of Grozny, a clear victory for Moscow and an indication that the city eventually will fall, as they continue the fighting in the villages and mountains. But much of Grozny remains an extremely dangerous military zone with fluid lines, and the new, Russian-named leadership of the republic has postponed its planned move there.

Similarly, Mr. Yeltsin once again postponed a speech to Parliament assessing the Chechen affair. His report to Parliament, originally scheduled for Jan. 11 and then for Thursday, has been rescheduled once more, for next Thursday or Friday.

Even the army's declaration that it was about to quit Chechnya is unfounded.

A Defense Ministry spokesman told Interfax that at least one division and two motorized infantry brigades — no less than 12,000 troops — would remain. Given that the invasion force was some 40,000 troops, equally divided between the Defense and Interior ministries, 12,000 soldiers is 60 percent of the army's original

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A Defense Ministry spokesman told Interfax that at least one division

Beijing Rebuts Accusations by Manila Over Disputed Islands

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — China on Thursday denied accusations by the Philippines that it was erecting large buildings in the disputed Spratly Islands, saying it had merely set up shelters for Chinese fishermen, even as Manila released pictures of substantial buildings on the island chain.

China's local fishing authorities have set up facilities at Meijiao, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Meijiao is a coral reef in the Spratlys, a chain of potentially oil-rich islands, reefs and shoals in the South China Sea southwest of Manila

claimed wholly or in part by Brunei, China, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam.

In Manila on Thursday, the Philippines made public photographs of what it said were Chinese vessels and substantial Chinese-built structures on the Spratly Islands.

Defense Minister Renato de Villa said aerial photographs showed the Chinese flag flying over four apparently permanent structures in the area known as Mischief Shoal.

"All of these four structures that we have discovered are flying the People's Republic of China flag," Mr. de Villa told reporters. "There are three large ships and five smaller ships in the area plus some small boats, and they are in

the middle of construction right now."

Asked if there was a danger of a military confrontation between Manila and Beijing in the area, Mr. de Villa said, "At the moment, we are not looking towards that direction."

But Mr. de Villa, showing blurred photographs taken from a distance, said some of the Chinese ships were of the Yukan class.

Jane's Fighting Ships says Yukan class ships are 1,200-ton vessels armed with machine guns and capable of carrying about 200 troops or 10 tanks.

Mr. de Villa said the Chinese structures were similar to those China had built on other disputed islands in the Spratlys.

He said the area occupied by the

Chinese was well within the Philippines' 200-mile exclusive economic zone.

China, however, denied that its navy had intruded into territory claimed by the Philippines. "No Chinese warships are at or around the reef," said a Foreign Ministry spokesman, Chen Jian.

President Fidel V. Ramos said Wednesday that he ordered a Philippine garrison on a group of eight of the Spratly Islands to be strengthened.

The Philippines, like almost all the other claimants to the Spratlys, has stationed troops on the islands.

(AP, Reuters)

New Submarine Reported

China has bought four patrol sub-

marines from Russia, significantly upgrading its submarine capability and raising fears of increased tensions in Asia and the Pacific, The Associated Press reported from London, quoting Jane's Defense Weekly.

Robert Karniol, the magazine's Asia Pacific editor, said Thursday that the deal was signed in November and that China had already received one submarine. The \$1 billion deal for the Kilo-class diesel vessels is "a major generational jump from China's current fleet," he said.

There are fears, he said, that the submarines could be used to blockade Taiwan, which China considers part of its territory.

BRIEFLY ASIA

China's New View on Launch Blast

BEIJING — China's space industry distanced itself on Thursday from reports in Hong Kong's Beijing-backed newspaper that blamed January's launch explosion on the U.S. satellite and cleared the Chinese-made launcher.

Great Wall Industry Corp. said it remained confident in its Long March rockets but indicated that no cause for the Jan. 26 launch explosion had been found, contradicting the Hong Kong reports.

"Chinese and U.S. experts agreed to organize an inquiry," Great Wall spokesman said, "and at present the investigation is running smoothly."

(Reuters)

India Leader Reshapes Cabinet

NEW DELHI — Trying to consolidate his badly shaken party, Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao brought six new members into his cabinet on Thursday and promoted two others.

The choices of new ministers sought to regain a geographic and factional balance in his party, which has been upset by resignations and defections. The move coincided with the beginning of legislative elections in six of India's 25 states, which are seen as crucial for Mr. Rao's political future. (AP)

Afghan Troops Target Key Road

KABUL — Forces loyal to the Afghan president, Burhanuddin Rabbani, launched a major offensive Thursday against opposition troops holding a strategically vital highway near the Salang Pass, a major route from Kabul to the north. (Reuters)

Murayama Vows to Rebuild Kobe

TOKYO — Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama of Japan announced a package of measures on Thursday to help rebuild areas of Japan shattered by an earthquake, declaring the reconstruction his top priority.

Mr. Murayama, who has been heavily criticized for his slow reaction to the disaster, which killed more than 5,000 people, pledged to clean up the destruction. "It is my task and responsibility to continue working on it," he said.

The prime minister, who conceded that he learned of the Jan. 17 Kobe earthquake on television news, stressed that Japan needed to improve its crisis management responses. The top priority, he said, was to remove the rubble and provide relief to the quake victims, as well as promote the building of towns capable of sustaining earthquakes.

A move to coordinate pro-China candidates' campaigns, its first admission of active participation in local electoral politics, has raised hopes that Beijing may not follow through on a repeated threat to dismantle the existing political system.

But the development also raises questions about Beijing's motives and concerns about a conflict of interest in its actions, politicians and analysts in the British colony said Thursday.

"I'm not sure the Chinese government, through its arm in Hong Kong, should play a direct role in elections," said Christine Loh, a member of the 60-seat Legislative Council.

"But if they respect the electoral process enough to back candidates in it, it will be difficult for them to kick out any winners they don't like," she added.

Local newspaper reports Thursday carried statements by Qin Wenjun, a deputy director at the Xinhua news agency, confirming that Beijing's de facto embassy would be closely involved in future campaigning.

Speaking at a function held by the pro-China Liberal Democratic Federation, Mr. Qin said Xinhua would help with coordination between various pro-Beijing parties in upcoming campaigns.

Mr. Qin's comments follow a long and bitter confrontation between Beijing and London over political reform in Hong Kong.

In October 1992, Governor Chris Patten introduced a package of changes to existing electoral arrangements that were designed to significantly broaden voter participation in a system long dominated by colonial administrators.

The democratic reforms were eventually approved by the Legislative Council, but only after nearly two years of heated opposition by China that poisoned relations between Beijing and Mr. Patten and spilled into the economic arena.

When it became apparent that Mr. Patten's proposals would be passed by legislators, Beijing pledged to dismantle an electoral system it refused to endorse.

The apparent policy turnaround by China was welcomed by the Hong Kong government.

"If Chinese officials are going to help encourage a full turnout of candidates and voters it will be a good thing," a Hong Kong government spokesman said. "The important thing here is that the entire election process is open and fair."

By working within the electoral system for an outcome it can live with, China is hedging its bets, analysts said. Beijing risks a repudiation of pro-China candidates at the polls in September but it can neutralize its liberal opponents with deep-pocketed support for its allies.

Mr. Chang was heading a six-member mission of religious scholars visiting the United States at the invitation of the Reverend Billy Graham.

He was quoted as saying that North Korean Catholics could not attend Mass or communion because there were not enough ordained priests.

Mr. Chang said he would like to visit North Korea this year but that Seoul must approve any such visit.

A North Korean pastor, Li Song Bong, recently said in Pyongyang that there are only 300 priests and three churches, two Protestant and one Roman Catholic, in North Korea. Be-

fore the Korean War of 1950-1953, he said, there were 1,400 churches and 120,000 priests.

There are about 10,000 Protestants and 3,000 Catholics in North Korea, Mr. Li added.

In another development that offered a glimmer of hope for a breakthrough in inter-Korean ties, North Korea said Thursday that it would send delegates to South Korea for a meeting on the issue of "comfort women."

A North Korean committee trying to help Korean women who were sexually enslaved during World War II and other wartime victims said their representatives would take part in the international meeting here.

The meeting was originally scheduled from Feb. 27 to March 1, with representatives from about 50 organizations from South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines and Japan.

Seoul said it would welcome the North Koreans. A National Unification Board spokesman said he hoped that the event would lead to Pyongyang accepting Seoul's proposal that families separated by Korea's division be allowed reunions in August for the 50th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japan.

Representatives from South and North Korea plan to hold a joint protest outside the Japanese Embassy here to press for compensation for comfort women, organizers of the meeting said.

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Burma Stepping Up Battle With Rebels

Agency France-Press

hours on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Aid officials on the border said that at least 60 Burmese government troops were killed in two waves of attacks on the hard-core of Karen fighters at Kawmoora.

"We could see the white flashes and light from the town," a Mae Sot resident said in this Thai border town near the Karen National Union river camp.

Armed cars of the Thai Border Patrol Police guarded land opposite Kawmoora on the Thai side after about 50 Burmese troops tried to get to the rebel camp through Thai territory on Wednesday.

The troops were turned back and no further incursions were reported in the area, a border police official said. The Karen's camp, situated in a loop in the river with Thai territory on three sides, is heavily defended by bunkers and machine-gunner nests and is ringed on the Burmese side by mine fields, an aid official said.

The soldiers who went into Thai territory were forced back by Thai military and Karen National Union gunfire, Thai sources said. There were casualties but the sources said they had no details.

The daily Nation quoted Thai and Karen sources as saying the Rangoon junta had deployed four battalions, including about 3,000 civilian porters, in the Kawmoora offensive.

There were no reliable figures on Karen rebel strength. Estimates ranged from 800 to more than 2,000.

Nasrin Trial Postponed At Prosecution Request

The Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh — A court postponed Thursday the blasphemy trial of the self-exiled feminist author Taslima Nasrin until next month. It was the third time the trial has been postponed in about two months.

The prosecution requested the delay, saying it needed time to obtain the government's permission to try Dr. Nasrin on a crime allegedly committed in a foreign country. Dr. Nasrin, 32, who fled to Sweden to escape death threats by Islamic radicals, is charged with blasphemy for allegedly insulting Islam in an interview with an Indian newspaper. She can be tried in absentia.

See our Business Message Center every Wednesday



HOW MUCH? — Ambassador Walter Mondale, left, visiting a Ford outlet outside Tokyo on Thursday in an effort to encourage Japanese dealers to sell American cars.

A Platinum Find? Doubts Rise

The Associated Press

MANILA — A two-ton block of metal purported to be part of a legendary Japanese treasure probably isn't pure platinum as first reported by police investigators, a metallurgist said Thursday.

The igloo-shaped block was seized Sunday in Cagayan Province, about 400 kilometers (250 miles) northeast of Manila. The director of the National Bureau of Investigation, Epi-maco Velasco, claimed it was platinum worth \$480 million.

New York dealers estimated two tons of platinum would fetch only about \$26 million on international markets. Still, reports of the discovery caused the rare metal's price to drop

Wednesday in Hong Kong and New York.

On Thursday, however, Roldo Viloria, chief of the Metals Industry Research and Development Council, said initial tests cast doubt on the claim that the block was pure platinum, which is more valuable than gold.

Mr. Viloria said the block contained rust, which should not be present on platinum. He also said a chip from the block was attracted to a magnet, which is uncharacteristic of platinum.

"But that's not conclusive," he said. "We're still considering that there may be platinum traces."

In announcing the discovery, Mr. Velasco said the find was probably part of the legendary treasure of General Tomoyuki Yamashita, the World War II Japanese commander in the Philippines who was hanged as a war criminal in 1946.

Legend has it that General Yamashita looted treasure from Southeast Asia and buried it in about 170 locations throughout the Philippines. But many historians doubt the "Yamashita treasure" exists.

General Yamashita was assigned to the Philippines only 10 days before U.S. troops under General Douglas MacArthur returned to the country in October 1944.

In Tokyo, a Japanese metals trader dismissed the report, saying Japan could not have collected that much platinum during the war.

"It's a fake story," said Makoto Tonoki, general manager of the bullion department of Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K. "We can now start calling you right back!"

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EUROPE

Greece Bars EU-Turkey Pact**Athens Demands Changes in Customs Accord**

Two ethnic Greeks leaving prison Thursday after being freed by an Albanian court.

ATHENS — Greece said Thursday that it was withholding agreement on a European Union customs accord with Turkey until there were improvements in the pact.

"We studied the issue assiduously, and the position of the Greek government is negative," said a government spokesman, Evangelos Venizelos. His comments followed a cabinet meeting called by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou to review the pact.

He said Greece would continue to veto the accord, which is partially designed to bring Turkey closer to the European Union unless it was improved.

EU foreign ministers agreed in principle on Monday to go ahead with a customs accord with Turkey in return for setting a date to start negotiations with Cyprus on joining the Union.

The agreement initially seemed to remove years of Greek objections to closer EU-Turkey ties, but Greece expressed reservations on Tuesday, saying it wanted to study the issue. The accord must be approved by all EU member governments.

Mr. Venizelos listed several points that he said needed to be improved.

They included more specific dates and procedures on EU membership for Cyprus, less money offered to Ankara to cope with the customs accord, and more aid to Greece's textile industry, which is expected to suffer under the agreement.

Both Turkey and Cyprus had welcomed the agreement, which was expected to give a boost to Turkey's ailing economy and help to speed up a solution to the problem of a divided Cyprus.

Closer EU-Turkey links have been blocked for years by a dispute between Athens and Ankara over Cyprus, which was divided following a 1974 Turkish invasion.

There were also signs of movement Thursday on issues that have divided Greece from another of its neighbors, Albania. Athens said that it hoped a new chapter was opening in often-stormy relations with Albania after four ethnic Greeks were freed from an Albanian jail.

The conviction of the four in September on charges of spying for Athens and possessing illegal weapons sent already tense relations between the two states plummeting. Greece called the convictions a farce reminiscent of Albania's hard-line Stalinist past, and said no further dialogue was possible with Albania until the four were freed.

After the decision of the Albanian Supreme Court and the release of the four, we believe this ordeal is over," said a Greek Foreign Ministry spokesman, Constantinos Bikias.

The Albanian Supreme Court, hearing an appeal on Wednesday, upheld the original convictions but handed down new five-year suspended sentences.

"We want to express our satisfaction and our hope that a new chapter will begin in the relations of the two countries for the benefit of their people," Mr. Bikias said.

The two countries have been at odds over issues such as the 300,000 illegal Albanian workers in Greece, whose remittances keep one of Europe's poorest states afloat, and the treatment of a large ethnic Greek minority in southern Albania.

BRIEFLY EUROPE**EU Business Leaders Urge Caution**

BRUSSELS — European Union business leaders called for a limited agenda at next year's intergovernmental conference on reforming EU institutions, saying uncertainty about the extent of reform and a possible hard-core of countries pursuing deeper integration could deter investment.

"All these arguments about two speeds or three speeds, or who is in or out of economic and monetary union, I don't think that's good for Europe," said Zygmunt Tyszkiewicz, secretary-general of the European employers' confederation, UNICE. Businesses need to be able to plan 10 to 20 years ahead to make major investments, he said. The leaders spoke before a meeting with Jacques Santer, the European Commission president.

Britain Must Pay Drug Trafficker

STRASBOURG, France — The European Court of Human Rights on Thursday ordered Britain to pay a jailed drug trafficker nearly £14,000 (\$21,730) in costs and said it might award him damages as well. It criticized Britain for sentencing Peter Welch under a law that had not yet come into effect when his crimes were committed.

The court faulted a British judge for a confiscation order against Mr. Welch, saying the 1988 order was based on a law that came into effect in 1987 while Mr. Welch had committed the offenses in 1986.



A FIRST AT VATICAN — Arpad Goncz meeting with Pope John Paul II on Thursday. It was the first time that a Hungarian president had visited the Vatican.

Calendar

European Union events scheduled for Thursday

STRASBOURG: Prime Minister Maris Gailis of Latvia signs membership agreements as Latvia officially joins the Council of Europe.

BRUSSELS: EU competition officials from each member state will consider whether Mercedes-Benz's proposed takeover of busmaker Kaesbrosch should be allowed.

BEIRUT: A European delegation meets with President Elias Hrawi of Lebanon and other government officials.

Sources: Agence Europe, Bloomberg

Report on Perils of Pasta Causes Italians to Choke

Reuters

ROME — The recent report that some dietary experts are reviewing the health benefits of pasta has met with outrage, derision and charges of disguised protectionism in Italy, where pasta is a source of national pride, culinary delight and export revenue.

A New York Times article, which began with the words "Bye-bye pasta," said some dietary experts were reviewing the health benefits of pasta and other starchy foods to a low-fat diet and now suspected they might contribute to obesity.

"Up to a very short time ago the Americans were singing the praises of the Mediterranean diet, which is based on carbohydrates," said Giuseppe Marafatta, a specialist at the food studies center of the Catholic University of Rome.

"Now they're questioning carbohydrates, and especially pasta. They forget there are other carbohydrates in their diet, like potatoes, which have an even higher absorption rate," he said.

Employers Fight EU's Labor Proposals

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — European Union business executives appealed Thursday for a moratorium on EU labor and social legislation, but the call was quickly rebuffed by President Jacques Santer and his colleagues on the EU executive commission.

Zygmunt Tyszkiewicz, secretary-general of the EU employers' confederation, UNICE, urged the commission to scrap legislative proposals on parental leave, rights for part-time workers and employees posted

across EU borders, and sex discrimination, saying they would hurt competitiveness.

"Present circumstances make these directives quite out of line with the needs of today," Mr. Tyszkiewicz said after a meeting between confederation leaders and Mr. Santer.

A spokesman for Mr. Santer said he reiterated his attachment to Europe's model of social protection, and his desire to end Britain's exemption from most EU social legislation.

"Social policy is writ large with me," Mr. Santer told the executives, according to the spokesman.

A spokeswoman for Padraig Flynn, the employment commissioner, said the proposals were needed to harmonize labor standards within the EU single market, and added that the commission would push to have them adopted this year by majority vote among member states under the EU social protocol.

"They're scaremongering over nothing," the spokeswoman said.

The move by the employers' confederation irked commission officials, who say they have already shown themselves willing to work with industry.

Much of the commission's recent work, including Jacques Delors' white paper on jobs and competitiveness, incorporates business demands on payroll taxes and the labor market. Indeed, Mr. Tyszkiewicz said

the industrialists were satisfied that their calls for deregulation were heard at the meeting. "I think Mr. Santer is a person who understands our problems," he said.

The business executives also urged the commission to consult industry more often instead of regulating with a Brussels-knows-best attitude.

But commission officials said the employers' own perceptions were out of date.

Bomb Damages Corsica Site

Reuters

AJACCIO, Corsica — A bomb exploded early Thursday in the Corsican city of Bastia, causing major damage to a waterworks, the police said. No one was hurt in the blast, and no one immediately claimed responsibility.

Swedish Submarine Alert? Only Minks

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — It was the minks, they think.

In an embarrassing admission, Defense Ministry analysts say many signals detected by the navy's high-tech buoys — and thought to be from foreign submarines — were just the sounds of swimming minks.

The report, coming after the military conceded that an animal had set off a submarine hunt in the Baltic Sea last spring, was leaked to the Dagens Nyheter newspaper and published Wednesday.

It said most of the suspicious sounds heard in the islands around Stockholm

since the end of the Cold War were minks and other mammals swimming and splashing as they searched for food.

Minks are plentiful on the islands. They usually feed on the surface, but sometimes dive for crayfish on the bottom.

Still, the military insists that they do not account for all the noises.

"We can't say that all the sounds from the buoy came from minks, or that all submarines are minks," the newspaper quoted Chief of Staff Owe Wiktorin as saying.

The Defense Ministry had no immediate comment on the report.

For nearly 15 years, the military has tracked evidence of intrusions, saying Soviet or other submarines were hiding in or crossing Swedish waters en route to the North Sea.

The effort started when a Soviet submarine ran aground outside a southern naval base in 1981. The navy, which noticed the submarine only after it was stranded, was determined not to be embarrassed again and began beefing up its defenses.

Still, in another incident, it detonated depth charges against a suspected intruder that turned out to be an underwater rock.

EUROPEAN TOPICS**From White to Bare-Faced, Just About Everybody Lies**

Lies have short legs, as an old saying goes, but they do get around. A British psychologist, Richard Wiseman, has confirmed as much in a major poll.

Only one in four people surveyed denied having lied in the past day. A mere 12 percent said they never lied — and who knows if they're telling the truth. Mr. Wiseman found it worrying that most people are so bad at spotting others' lies, the German weekly *Der Spiegel* reports.

The main clues to prevarication, he says, come from the words people choose (are they evasive?), the way they deliver those words (hesitations or a choked voice are tell-tale signs), and their facial and body language (such as averting one's glance). Mr. Wiseman wanted to know how those signs play out over to-day's mass media.

So he taped Sir Robin Day, a political commentator, talking about his favorite movies. In one version Sir Robin lied throughout; in the other he told the truth. Both versions were printed in a London daily and aired on radio and

television. Readers, listeners and viewers were then asked which they thought was truthful.

Mr. Wiseman says some people think that eye contact makes one a convincing liar. But would-be liars, he says, would be better advised simply to close their eyes and pay attention to their words. Another conclusion: If you want to lie to the masses, try TV.

Around Europe

How should a city handle young people who cover its walls and buildings with graffiti?

Berlin officials have opted for an iron-fisted approach. At 6 A.M. on Jan. 13, some 400 police raided 85 homes and 3 businesses in the Berlin area, looking for spray paint, graffiti magazines, posters and the like. The raids, coordinated by a newly formed investigative group called GIB ("Graffiti in Berlin"), were intended to make an impression on the estimated 12,000 Berlin "writers," as they call themselves. Not everyone was impressed. The home of one 14-year-old boy, Gregor, was visited by six police. He had been caught spray-painting a wall a year before. But the problem was long since resolved; the boy scrubbed the paint off himself. "They had no grounds for coming here," said the youth's angry father.

The British Army's last 20 horses retired from active duty this week. Their last real service in combat came during World War I, when mounted cavalry were sent against entrenched gunners, with suicidal result. Since then, army horses have been relegated largely to patrol and to ceremonial duty. They will be replaced by all-terrain motorcycles, said the army, at a savings of £500,000 (\$775,000).

Talk about fast work... According to the Paris daily *Liberation*, a work crew on the Rue de Provence was seen on a recent morning painting stripes to indicate that the street had become a metered parking zone. Trucks were employed to hoist cars up while painters applied stripes beneath them. So far nothing new. But locals were astounded when, with the paint still wet, an "army" of light-blue-garbed meter readers swarmed in to ticket the cars, now illegally parked.

Brian Knowlton

Polish Nominee Voices Doubt on Job

Agence France-Press

WARSAW — Jozef Oleksy, the leftist government's nominee for prime minister, said on Thursday after an edgy meeting with President Lech Walesa that he had "not yet decided" to accept the job.

"I won't make a definite decision for seven days," Mr. Oleksy said as he left the meeting.

The governing coalition dropped Prime Minister Wladyslaw Pawlak on Tuesday under pressure from Mr. Walesa, who threatened to dissolve Parliament.

"One cannot say if President Walesa has accepted my candidacy," said Mr. Oleksy, a moderate former Communist and

leading member of the Democratic Left Alliance.

"I could detect a certain reticence on the president's part," added Mr. Oleksy, whose party shares power in the coalition with Mr. Pawlak's Peasants' Party.

According to the president's office, the two men discussed the country's "most pressing problems" during the 90-minute meeting. Mr. Walesa's first with Mr. Oleksy.

Mr. Oleksy's comments cast new doubt on the government after Mr. Pawlak's removal had appeared to pave the way for a solution to a crisis that has paralyzed Poland.

Mr. Walesa had been trying to get rid of Mr. Pawlak for

"Saint-Valentine. On this day, why not be unique?"



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INTERNATIONAL

Despite Objections, EU Delegates Talk With Palestinians

Reuters

JERUSALEM — A European Union delegation met Thursday with Palestinian officials in East Jerusalem despite Israeli objections.

A senior Palestinian official, Faisal Husseini, said the discussions had not focused on Palestinian self-rule, an issue that Israel has insisted must not be raised by officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Israeli-controlled East Jerusalem.

But by holding talks with Palestinian officials in East Jerusalem, the EU group, headed by the French foreign minister, Alain Juppé, effectively challenged a recent Israeli ban on Palestinian political activity in the city.

Palestinians view East Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state. Israel regards all of the city as its own "eternal, united capital," and fear that meetings like the one with the EU delegation legitimize the Palestinian presence in East Jerusalem.

After the hourlong meeting, Mr. Husseini said, "We discussed things related to the peace process in general terms, but subjects related to the Palestinian Authority will be discussed, I believe, in a forum in Gaza and not in the Orient House," the PLO headquarters in Jerusalem.

None of the EU delegates talked to reporters outside Orient House. Besides Mr. Juppé, the delegation was made up of Hans-Friedrich von Pötz of

Germany and Carlos Westendorp of Spain.

But one Palestinian delegate, Mahdi Abdul-Hadi, said the talks covered Palestinian elections and the Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank.

Elections and an accompanying Israeli redeployment are the subject of Israeli-PLO negotiations on expanding a self-rule agreement signed in 1993.

Israel's deputy foreign minister, Yossi Beilin, said Monday that Israel had asked the delegation not to visit the Orient House. But he said Israel relented when the EU agreed to make it a courtesy call and not to discuss Palestinian self-rule there.

Palestinians said the meeting covered bilateral Israeli-Arab peace talks and multilateral negotiations on economic development, disarmament and the environment. Palestinians also brought up Israel's closing of the West Bank, imposed after a suicide bombing killed 21 Israelis last month.

"The importance of the meeting is that it took place," said Ziad Abu Zayyad, a Palestinian negotiator. "The arrival of the troika at the Orient House is in our opinion very important because we are interested in maintaining the situation that existed before the Oslo peace agreement."

The Israelis stationed policemen outside the nearly 100-year-old building, which has come to symbolize the Palestinian political presence in Jerusalem.

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Savimbi Seems Resigned to Peace With Ascendant Foe

By Paul Taylor

Washington Post Service



Jonas Savimbi, speaking with reporters, said UN peacekeepers could not "solve Angola's problems."

BAILUNDO, Angola — Reports of Jonas Savimbi's death have been greatly exaggerated, and the reclusive Angolan rebel leader made a rare public appearance here this week to make the point in person.

He has had lots to say on other subjects, too, as he orated, exhorted and philosophized for two and a half hours Tuesday at the opening session of a congress of the UNITA guerrilla movement that he founded three decades ago.

Long after weary journalists had laid down their notebooks, UNITA's high command of military and political leaders, seated in the front row, were still furiously taking notes of the rambling speech. If nothing else, the performance reaffirmed that Mr. Savimbi's personality-cult dominance over UNITA persists despite recent military setbacks and reports of internal dissension.

Although he has never held public office, Mr. Savimbi has been Angola's larger-than-life figure ever since it won its independence from Portugal in 1975 and UNITA — National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — went to war with a rival anti-colonial force, the Soviet-backed Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola that took over as the new government.

Mr. Savimbi has shown himself equally adept over the years at charming Western donors and running roughshod over African generals. But he and his movement are now at a low ebb. Without quite putting it that way, their quadrennial congress is considering how best to stay for peace.

When Mr. Savimbi arrived at the congress in a black Mercedes, a chorus of

young women sang his praises while the hard-eyed young men who make up his large security retinue fingered their machine guns and rocket launchers.

His first order of business once he got inside was to make fun of the incessant rumors that make the rounds in the capital, Luanda, that he has either been killed, maimed, paralyzed or stricken with a deadly disease.

"Look at me. Do I look paralyzed?" he asked, rising from his chair. The 600 delegates in the room roared their approval.

Three months ago, UNITA and the government signed a United Nations-sponsored peace accord in Lusaka, Zambia — their second effort in five years to end a two-decade-old civil war that has taken more than 500,000 lives. But Mr. Savimbi withheld his signature at Lusaka, and in his opening speech Tuesday he remained resolutely ambiguous about his attitude toward the agreement.

He said that a UN peacekeeping force, which the Security Council approved in New York on Wednesday in line with the Lusaka protocol, would "not solve Angola's problems." His body language, however, seemed to say that he accepts its coming anyway.

UNITA's minister of information, Jorge Valentim, was moved to try a little Western-style spin control after the speech.

"Please pass the word," he whispered to a journalist. "Savimbi didn't say he didn't want blue helmets. The speech can have many interpretations. It was not really a speech. It was more of a lecture."

Mr. Savimbi, 60, is accustomed to lecturing. He calls himself "doctor," though he does not hold a doctorate or a medical degree. He was educated in Europe, trained in China and at various phases

over the past 30 years has presented himself as a Macist, Western Democrat, anti-communist and Pan Africanist.

Mr. Savimbi may not be paralyzed, but he has been politically neutralized.

UNITA is holding its congress here in a remote mountain village in the central highlands, because three months ago it was routed from Huambo, 45 miles (75 kilometers) to the south. That is the city that Mr. Savimbi captured in 1993, considers the symbolic capital of his Ovimbundu tribe and vowed never to leave.

Late last year, government tank columns, backed by a contingent of South African mercenaries, approached Huambo from three sides and persuaded Mr. Savimbi otherwise.

The government captured Huambo just a week before the Lusaka protocol was signed, and it took another provincial capital, Uige, a few days after.

During much of his speech, Mr. Savimbi displayed a copy of the Lusaka accord and mocked it as a "collection of lies" and a "meaningless piece of paper."

On Wednesday, however, in an interview with Western journalists, he softened his criticism. He said that 90 percent of the success of any agreement was in the implementation, not the drafting. And he added that he would have difficulty persuading his troops to accept the accord, given the 11-hour government offensive.

At the same time, however, he said that if his troops were well treated at assembly points and given good places in a new joint army, they would be prepared to go forward with the peace process.

Mr. Savimbi added that he was prepared to meet with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. "But dos Santos must respect me," he said. "I'm older."

UN Will Send Peacekeepers to Ease Angola Out of Civil War

By Barbara Crossette

New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — The Security Council has voted unanimously to send a 7,000-member peacekeeping force to Angola, the largest operation in Africa since troops went to Somalia in 1993.

The Angola mission is a critical one for the United Nations because a previous effort to monitor an Angolan peace accord and conduct elections after a long civil war was undone in 1992 when fighting resumed shortly after the voting.

Last November in Lusaka, Zam-

bia, the Angolan government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and the rebel army UNITA, led by Jonas Savimbi, signed a new peace agreement.

On Wednesday, Angola's foreign minister, Venancio da Silva Moura, told the 15-member council that the success of the cease-fire that prevailed since then "leads us to believe that this time peace has come to stay."

The UN's Angolan operation will cost about \$380 million a year, of which the United States would be assessed a third. Washington will not send troops, though the Clinton ad-

ministration will consider requests for logistical support.

Republican leaders in Congress have already offered support for the mission. Senator Jesse Helms, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and a strong anti-Communist, has consistently supported Mr. Savimbi and UNITA in its fight against the leftist government.

The first peacekeepers to be deployed in Angola will come from Brazil, India, Pakistan, Romania, Uruguay, and Zimbabwe. Under the resolution establishing the force, a limited number of observers will be sent initially to set up quartering cen-

ters for rebel soldiers as long as the cease-fire holds.

Infantry forces would follow, depending on regular assessments of progress made by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali, a condition strongly backed by the United States.

Part of the costs of the operation will be paid by Angola, a country rich in oil and diamonds. On Wednesday, Mr. da Silva Moura pledged \$64 million, plus some material assistance.

South Africans to Stay Home

South Africa said Thursday that it

would not send troops to Angola as part of the UN peacekeeping force, Reuters reported from Johannesburg.

But it offered to help remove millions of land mines that are scattered across the country.

"It is very clear that South Africa will not send troops," said the spokesman for the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Jacques Malan.

South Africa is reluctant to commit its own forces because of its past involvement in Angola under apartheid governments that backed Mr. Savimbi's UNITA rebels.

KOHL: Chancellor and Clinton Back NATO Growth

Continued from Page 1

pressured "into a corner" over events in Chechnya.

Mr. Clinton said he and Mr. Kohl shared a "vision of European security that embraces a democratic Russia," and would continue to reassure Mr. Yeltsin that an expanded NATO would pose no threat to a democratic Russia.

At the same time, however, the president underscored his concern about the fighting in Chechnya, by announcing that Washington will offer up to \$20 million in hu-

manitarian and refugee assistance in response to international requests for such aid.

In our conversations with President Yeltsin we have both made clear our fears about the corrosive effect the conflict in Chechnya can have on democratic market-oriented reform in the Russian republic," the president said, speaking for himself and Mr. Kohl. "But the conflict has not changed the nature of our interests, namely that Russia's efforts to become a stable democratic nation must succeed."

The two leaders also discussed the situation in Bosnia and agreed that the Muslim-Croat federation should be strengthened as one foundation for an eventual peace agreement in Bosnia.

And on Iraq, Mr. Clinton said he and the German leader

were "in full agreement" that the United Nations should not lift sanctions on Baghdad until all conditions set forth in UN resolutions are met. France and Russia favor a less strict approach to Iraq.

The Clinton administration hopes Mr. Kohl will approve German participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations now that German courts have ruled that such a role is not constitutionally prohibited.

After discussions at the White House, Mr. Kohl was to meet at the Capitol with the newly elected Republican leadership in Congress, in addition to the minority Democrats, and with members of the international relations committee in the House and Senate.

Those meetings were to be followed by a black-tie state dinner at the White House.

As he arrived on the beach in Barbados, exhausted and somewhat disoriented, Mr. Delage said the principal joy of his trip had been learning "how man can find peace and contentment in the milieu of the ocean and marine life."

At the same time, the sanc-

tions do not appear to have weakened the grip on power of the regime and its Arab Ba'ath

Socialist Party loyalists, who continue to be shielded from their harshest effects, and who seem eager to prove it by building several new palaces, such as the gleaming marble edifice on the banks of the Tigris that is visible to motorists passing on a busy expressway. Iraqi officials say it is a guest house for visiting heads of state.

The president had insisted that the bombing would end the war. As it dragged on, Mr. Fulbright came to believe that he had been deceived. "The biggest lesson I learned from Vietnam," he said later, "is not to trust government statements. I had no idea until then that you could not rely on government statements."

The president had insisted that the bombing would end the war. As it dragged on, Mr. Fulbright came to believe that he had been deceived. "The biggest lesson I learned from Vietnam," he said later, "is not to trust government statements. I had no idea until then that you could not rely on government statements."

More significantly, diplomats said, the government appears to have consolidated control over its restive Shiite Muslim population. They cite as evidence

BOOKS

KAREN HORNEY:
A Psychoanalyst's Search
for Self-Understanding
By Bernard J. Paris. 270 pages.
\$30. Yale University Press.

Reviewed by
Diane Middlebrook

KAREN HORNEY (1885-1952) disliked being a woman, so she adopted the ways of the men around her. She studied medicine in her native Germany, then took up psychoanalysis, becoming a founding member of the Berlin Psychoanalytic Institute in 1920. Scandalous behavior repeatedly landed her in trouble. She disputed with Freud and with her own analyst, Karl Abraham, fundamental issues in Freud's theory of femininity (Horney wrote briskly that if we "free our minds from this masculine mode of thought, nearly all the problems of feminine psychology take on a different appearance"). She conducted numerous affairs during her marriage; after divorcing her husband and emigrating to the United States in her late 40s, she was forced to resign from another institute, where she had seduced and abandoned a number of her male student analysands. But her career was an immense success anyway, and all of her books are still in print, more than 40 years after her death.

Bernard J. Paris wants to show that Horney was a woman ahead of her time. He argues that Horney is one of the most undervalued psychoanalytic thinkers of this century — that professional brilliance enabled her to theorize in profoundly original writings the conflicts she was condemned by her character flaws to act out disastrously in life.

Most significant to Paris's argument are the personal journals in which Horney kept track of her own struggles against conformity and later against depression. Horney began writing a diary at age 13 and kept up the practice until she was 26. Her adolescent diaries, published in 1980, convey a precocious gift for self-analysis and surprising clarity about her appetites (may be surprising only because the record of what adolescents really think about is pretty sparse). Rebellions against conventional femininity show up right away. Her father resented paying for a girl's education, and she worried about fulfilling her dreams of

becoming a doctor. She seethed over her mother's preferential treatment of a brother and over her mother's coldness toward Karen's first boyfriend, who was Jewish. She mocked her own propensity for serial infatuations with teachers: "Yes, I confess it honestly — I am a stupid *Backfisch* [adolescent girl] with my eternal crushes." She sought mental sexual liberation by reading erotic literature, and imagined herself as a prostitute.

Paris connects Horney's youthful confidence in the authenticity of her own experience with her later distinction as an analyst. "Not surprisingly," he comments, "Horney came to feel it to be her 'given task' to understand female psychology: to explore the differences between men and women and the disturbances in relationships between the sexes from the woman's perspective. She had a personal stake in making psychoanalytic theory less threatening to her dignity and more useful as a tool of self-exploration and growth." Her work would focus not on the infantile origins of neurosis but on the function of the patient's defenses. Horney saw the goal of analysis as restoring to the individual the spontaneity crushed under the burden of neurotic anxieties. And she shrewdly saw many of those anxieties as products of the assignment of women to categorical social inferiority.

This book is not a biography, but makes extensive use of newly available materials to establish specific links between Horney's professional writings and her personal experiences. Though Paris writes lucid expository prose, the book is not easy going for a reader unfamiliar with the biographical information it challenges and amplifies.

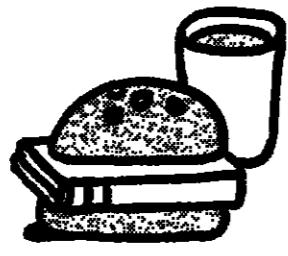
Given its emphasis on the practical aspects of Horney's thought, it is not surprising that this book comes most to life in the brief appendix, where Paris discusses the uses he has made, as a literary critic, of Horney's insights. In just a few pages, he makes a strong case for his unpopular opinion that the study of literature needs its psychoanalysts. Few readers of his explanations will fail to be impressed by what Paris shows them about their own defensive practices as readers — and without using a syllable of jargon, at that.

Diane Middlebrook, author of "Anne Sexton: A Biography," wrote this for The Washington Post.

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• Jean-Claude Van Damme, action film star, is reading "Songs My Mother Taught Me," the autobiography of Marion Brando.

"The man's a genius. It's incredible for me to read that he often didn't even bother to learn his lines. I think he should be more disciplined about eating all that junk food though." (Marcelle Katz, IHT)



BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott
IN the diagramed deal, North and South climbed to four no-trump as shown. North was too strong to bid three clubs, but he might have considered three hearts.

South's four no-trump was a sign-off, and West led a heart. He won with dummy's jack, and correctly resisted the temptation to cash the club ace. In-

NORTH

♦ Q J 10 9
△ A J 2
○ —
♦ A K J 9 6

WEST
♦ A K 8 6
○ 10 5 4
○ 9 7 5 4 3 2
○ —

SOUTH
♦ 7 6
○ K Q 7 3
○ A Q 10 6
○ 8 4

North and South were vulnerable.

The bidding:
East South West North

Pass Pass Pass 1 ♠

Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠

Pass 2 N.T. Pass 4 ♠

Pass 4 N.T. Pass Pass

West led the heart four.

stead, he led the spade queen, and when that was allowed to win, continued with the jack.

West won this and persevered with a heart. Dummy won with the ace, and another spade was won by West. That player led his last heart, and South took two tricks in the suit to reach this tricky ending:

NORTH

♦ 9
○ —
○ —
♦ A K J 9 6

WEST
♦ 8
○ —
○ K J
♦ —

EAST (D)
♦ 5 2
○ 9 8 6
○ K J 8
♦ —

SOUTH
♦ 9 8 7 5 4 3 2
○ K Q 10 7 5 3
○ —

♦ A Q 10 6
○ 8 4

South led a club, planning to duck, but changed his mind when West threw a diamond. He won in dummy and led the spade winner.

East was helpless. If he threw a diamond, a low club would endplay him. And if he threw a club, any play from dummy would succeed.

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INTERNATIONAL

War Revives Ecuador Leader

Country Unites Behind Nationalist President

By James Brooke
New York Times Service

QUITO, Ecuador — Over the last half-century, a quarrel with Peru over a strip of Amazon border has inspired Ecuadorans to produce about 500 books on the subject — about 10 volumes per contested mile.

So, when President Sixto Durán Ballén ordered his soldiers two weeks ago to resist Peruvians, it was as if the 73-year-old leader had been reborn, invigorated by a magical nationalism.

None were memories of an infirm politician who spent most of November in a Washington hospital, prompting his enemies back home to plant stories of his death on local radio stations.

Instead, Mr. Durán Ballén could be seen daily on the whitewashed balcony of the Spanish-colonial presidential palace here. Energetically pumping the air with his right fist, he led crowds in rhythmic chants of "Not One Step Back!"

Gone were the tear-gas-tainted memories of opposition to his free-market changes of the last two years — a national protest by Indians, three general strikes and recurrent strikes by state oil, telephone and electricity workers determined to block privatizations.

On Tuesday night, flag-waving crowds lined streets to welcome the president home from a diplomatic tour of South America. It was hard to remember that only six weeks ago, "Sixto" dolls were the hottest sellers among the effigies that Ecuadorans burn New Year's Eve in a traditional protest against politicians.

"Physically and politically, Sixto has revived," said Benjamin Ortiz Brennan, editor of Hoy, an influential newspaper in this capital. "At the beginning of December it seemed that he was going to die or resign. But Ecuador is a nation

wounded in its dignity. It is a nation with a deficit complex."

A \$500 million war-tax bill sailed through Ecuador's Congress this week, normally one of Latin America's most divided legislatures. Controlling only 9 of its 77 seats, Mr. Durán Ballén has watched Congress impeach or force the resignation of four cabinet ministers since September.

With a chance to restore the national honor, few Ecuadorans worry, at least publicly, that the border conflict between two poor countries is costing each side an estimated \$10 million a day. From islanders on the Galápagos to Indian tribes in the Amazon, thousands of Ecuadorans suddenly have been unified by the challenge of a rematch with Peru.

Standing up to Lima seems to offer collective therapy for national psychic damage caused by the loss of half of Ecuador's territory to Peru in a 1941 war. Though only a small fraction of this nation of 11 million people is old enough to remember the war, it still resonates in this normally placid nation.

Having bathed in the nationalist fountain of youth, Mr. Durán Ballén may now be its political prisoner.

Across the border, he faces Alberto Fujimori, a politician who is equally determined to declare "victory."

Peru's president is seeking re-election in a vote two months from now.

Some analysts fret about possible parallels with South America's last border war. Argentina's government collapsed after its army was defeated in the 1982 invasion of the Falkland Islands.

Although Ecuador's president has cut inflation in half and has boosted economic growth in the last two years, a battlefield defeat could cut short his presidential mandate and shake Ecuador's 15-year-old democracy.



Vanderlei Almeida/Reuters
Ecuadorian troops unloading supplies. The fighting is said to cost Quito \$10 million a day.



HENRY HAMPTON

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

His documentaries have been called "history as poetry." In films such as *Eye on the Prize* and *America's War on Poverty*, he has shed new light on the past and provided inspiration for the future.

TERESA HEINZ AND THE
HEINZ FAMILY FOUNDATION ARE
PLEASSED TO ANNOUNCE THE
RECIPIENTS OF THE FIRST
ANNUAL

HEINZ
AWARDS

GEOFFREY CANADA
THE HUMAN CONDITION

Raised in poverty, he studied at Harvard and returned to the inner city to nurture and protect children at home, at school and in the streets. Because of his leadership programs such as Peacemakers, Beacon Schools and the Harlem Freedom Schools have become national models of hope and caring.

HEROES WALK
AMONG US.

AMBASSADOR JAMES GOODBY
PUBLIC POLICY

For four decades under nine Presidents, he has been a quiet man in the high stakes arena of nuclear arms control. Today he continues to make our world safer as chief negotiator for agreements to limit weapons proliferation and to dismantle nuclear weapons still in the former Soviet Union.

The Heinz Awards are among the largest individual achievement prizes in the world. Each of the five annual Awards includes a cash prize of \$250,000.

The Heinz Awards recognize significant and long-term contributions to the betterment of humanity in five areas in which the late U.S. Senator John Heinz was particularly active.

Teresa Heinz
Teresa Heinz



ANDREW GROVE
TECHNOLOGY AND THE
ECONOMY

An engineering genius and enlightened corporate executive, the computer pioneer has played a leading role in the birth of the information society. As the head of Intel, he has made personal computer technology affordable and available for millions.



PAUL AND ANNE EHRЛИCH
THE ENVIRONMENT

For 30 years, these authors, educators and scientists have challenged us to confront issues such as population growth, use of natural resources and biodiversity. The solutions they have offered have been provocative, creative and humane.

OPINION/LETTERS

The Devolution Revolution Hits America, Russia, China

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — A quick insight to illuminate the political landscape: China, Russia and the United States, all in their own ways, are sending power long concentrated in their capitals out to the boondocks.

Curiously, when we Americans see this happening in China, we tut-tut about "warlordism." After Beijing-centre Deng Xiaoping dies, political power in China will probably devolve to centrifugal men in a half-dozen regions, thereby reflecting economic reality.

Beijing's central grip will be broken because it has raised government-army-business corruption to a national scale — but such corrup-

America should stop touting order imposed from the center for others even as it comes to reject that course for itself.

tion works best, mafia-style, in alliances among regional "families."

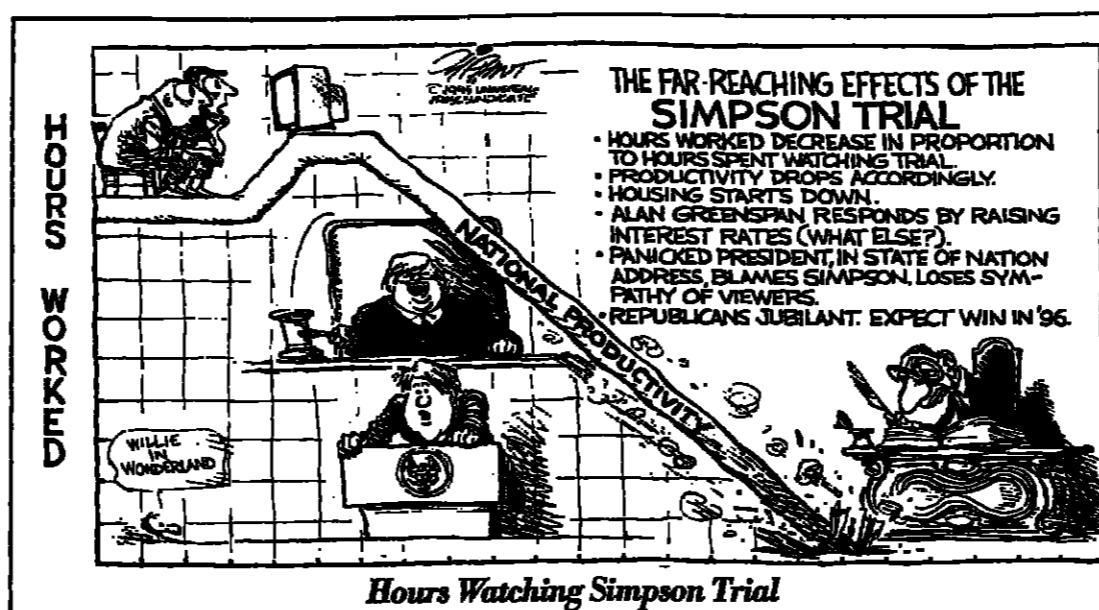
Meanwhile, devolution continues apace in Russia, which is down to 150 million people. Its hope of gaining back population is in the immigration to the motherland of Russian-speakers from the "near abroad," unhappy in the broken-off states.

Chechnya's bid for independence, brutally repressed, reminds the varved peoples of the unmanageably fractious Russian Federation that Moscow rules by force. But the successor to Boris Yeltsin will have to submit to the stronger centrifugal force, recognizing that ever greater autonomy within each republic is the way to maintain sovereignty over all.

The American tut-tutters at this trend call the coming devolution "dismemberment." They foresee nothing but Balkan-like trouble in breakups, and pose a legitimate question about the control of nuclear weapons in China or Russia if either nation sinks into anarchy.

But is anarchy the necessary result of the flow of power to the people? Would not downsizing benefit nations that have overconglomerated? Even Europe, after a decade of rhetoric about continental integration, is now finding new respect for local culture and national identity.

On devolution, it ain't what you do, it's the way you do it. The United States is pointing the way to the orderly dispersion of political power. By striking down "unfunded man-



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We Simply Have No Choice but to Help

Regarding "Prepare for Better Relief and Peacekeeping, Not Less" (Opinion, Feb. 3) by Jim Hoagland:

The world is indeed confronted by many "nasty little wars." Intern-

state wars are being replaced by vicious intrastate conflicts. The vic-

tims of the fighting in Afghanistan, the former Yugoslavia, Liberia, So-

malia and Rwanda are innocent ci-

vilians, primarily women and chil-

dren. Increasingly, humanitarian

agencies are working in conflict si-

tuations threatening both the security

of the people who require our pro-

tection and that of the international

relief workers. Humanitarian action

is, however, not an end in itself.

It should not be a fig leaf for poli-

tical inaction or failure.

The international community has

been faced with several fail-

ures, but there have also been suc-

cesses. Think of South Africa, Central

America, Cambodia and

Mozambique. After years of de-

pending upon international assis-

tance, people have voluntarily re-

turned home to participate in

elections and in the rebuilding

of their countries.

In former Yugoslavia, humani-

tarian assistance by nongovern-

mental organizations, the Interna-

tional Committee of the Red Cross

and the UN High Commis-

sioner for Refugees, in cooperation

with the UN Protection Force, has

saved hundreds of thousands of

lives.

Mr. Hoagland appeals to humani-

tarian agencies and governments to

rethink international relief and hu-

manitarian programs and to adopt

and assisted.

Does the international communi-

ty have the right to write off inno-

cent victims when they do not fit

the political realities?

SADAKO OGATA.

Geneva.

The writer is United Nations High

Commissioner for Refugees.

They're Russia's Brightest

William Pfaff says that Russia's

younger politicians lack cultivation

and education ("These Are Soviet

Sloganeers Turned Capitalist Power

Seekers," Opinion, Feb. 6). But Yel-

egor Gaidar, Anatoli Chubais, Boris

Pedorov, Grigori Yavlinsky and An-

drei Kozyrev, five of the most impres-

sive of Russia's younger genera-

tion of politicians, all hold doctorates.

The indefatigable Mr. Chubais, who

masterminded Russia's program of

mass privatization, remembers nights

spent in a Saint Petersburg library

reading the works of Friedrich Hayek

as the happiest of his life.

Few Western leaders, whom Mr.

Pfaff lauds for their cultivation, can

claim as much. John Major never

went to university and Newt Ging-

rich speaks in Toffleresque cyber-

babble, rather than plain English.

As for Mikhail Gorbachev, who

made a better impression on Mr.

Pfaff, his habitual grammatical mis-

takes, misuse of words and accent

make educated Russians cringe each

time he opens his mouth, despite

coaching from his wife, Boris Yeltsin

might be no great intellect, but he

can speak proper Russian.

ANDREW COWLEY.

Moscow.

The writer is Moscow corre-

spondent of The Economist of London.

MCANNERICSON

How Could the Good Doctor Attract Such Angry Fire?

By Ellen Goodman

BOSTON — In the scheme of things, Dr. Henry Foster is lucky. It's his nomination that is in jeopardy, not his life.

Dr. Foster does not need a security guard — yet — to go about his daily practice. No one is picketing his house or targeting his family. It is only his chance to become sur-

MEANWHILE

geon-general that is under attack. The weapons this time are the fax and the phone, the press release and the media.

A few days ago, Dr. Foster became Bill Clinton's cautious pick for the bulky pulpit from which Joyce Elders was so unceremoniously evicted. Now it appears that this obstetric-gynaecologist, a man who delivered 100,000 babies, a former dean of a medical school and the force behind a teenage pregnancy prevention program, also performed abortions in his 30-year practice. This safe choice has become another target in the abortion war zone.

Suddenly, Senator Bob Dole doesn't "like what I hear, what I read." Senator Orrin Hatch says there are "some very troubling things concerning his nomination." Now

the pro-life movement, on the basis of a dubious transcript, claims the doctor performed 700 abortions. The president has added an "if" to his support for the Tennessean: "if the facts are as I understand them to be."

Dr. Foster is losing his footing, his hold on this job. He is sliding down the verbal slippery slope that is greased so regularly by extremists in the pro-life movement.

On their slope, doctors who perform abortions are labeled "abortion doctors" as if they were a species beyond the medical pale. "Abortion docs" are further marginalized as "abortionists" with the M.D. excised altogether. Finally

A doctor is thus turned into a demon. At the very bottom of the slope are found the bodies of a doctor and his guard in Pensacola, Florida, and two clinic workers in Brookline, Massachusetts. Now, other doctors go to work wearing bulletproof vests and go to sleep with rifles by their beds. Many are simply scared off.

No one has yet claimed the dignified Dr. Foster a "murderer." At least not in public. Nor has his name been added to the hit list of the "Deadly Dozen" doctors distributed last month — complete with names and addresses — by the American Coalition of Life Activists.

Degussa on Degussa

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For centuries, mankind has looked to science and technology to create heaven on earth. But our efforts have not always agreed with Mother Earth. We have come to realize that progress in one area can often be at the expense of another.

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mankind against the risk to our environment.

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mental protection solutions go a long way to ensuring that not only mankind but our water and soil, too, are under less pressure.

For Degussa, it all began with gold and silver. Today we shine in many more fields.

DOWN TO EARTH SOLUTIONS
Degussa

Afloat in the Gardens Of the Ancient Aztecs

By John Brunton

MEXICO CITY — Being serenaded by a group of costumed mariachis happens to pretty much every tourist to Mexico, at least once a trip. But listening to the strains of "Guadaljara" come floating across the water, with the mariachis strumming away in one boat, as you lie back with a cold beer in another, is something else again.

This happens on the maze of canals and lagoons that make up Xochimilco, which is sort of a mix of a gondola ride in Venice, a punt along the river in Cambridge and a tea dance at a Parisian *guinguette* on the banks of the Seine.

When the Spanish conquistadors of Hernán Cortés discovered the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlán in 1519, they called it "the new Venice," a city bigger than most they had seen in Europe, set in a delicate ecosystem in the midst of a lagoon, an archipelago linked by canals, causeways and bridges. It didn't take the Spaniards long to destroy all this and replace it with a grand Baroque European city, which today has metamorphosed into Mexico City.

Just a half-hour drive from the Zócalo, the historical center of this sprawling metropolis, lies one of the last vestiges of the ancient Aztec civilization, testimony to a way of life that has existed for almost a thousand years. Xochimilco is a Náhuatl word meaning "place where flowers grow," and it is that: a labyrinth of canals and lagoons filled with *chinampas*, floating gardens of flowers, plants, vegetables and fruit, that have been the market garden of Tenochtitlán and Mexico City since the 13th century.

For inhabitants of Mexico City a weekend trip to Xochimilco is the perfect escape from suburban life, and more than 5,000 of them turn up each Sunday. And there are more and more foreign tourists visiting. There's no lack of things to do, starting with a journey along the canals in a brightly painted flat gondola.

As the boatsman slowly punts his way past flower gardens and orchards, several smaller crafts pull alongside. One may hold a group of mariachis sporting wide sombreros, another musicians playing marimbas. Old ladies glide past offering ice-cold beer, corn on the cob and spicy *taquitos*. For tourists coming in buses in larger towns, there are "party boats," where a full meal is provided. And for once, there is little chance

even for gringos to get ripped off because everything at Xochimilco is "fixed price," right down to the cost of a mariachi song.

There are 189 kilometers (117 miles) of canals, and tourist boats pass through only a small proportion. The rest is reserved for cultivating vegetables and flowers, which are on display at the markets. This is where everyone heads after the boat docks. The market stretches over 13 hectares (32 acres) with 1,300 stalls, selling everything from orchids to giant rubber plants to water lilies.

Next to the flower stalls is a sprawling ceramics market with some great terra-cotta bargains. In the town of Xochimilco, there's a bustling food market that's more picturesque and a lot less stressful to wander around than the more famous Mercado in Mexico City.

At first sight, it's difficult to believe that Xochimilco is man-made. The Indian farmers who constructed and constructed the chinampas system created a highly delicate balance between land and water, whereby the natural environment of the wetlands was protected and maintained while advanced agricultural methods exploited the fertile soil, permitting up to seven harvests a year.

THIS area was first settled by Chichimecas more than 800 years ago. They invented the idea of chinampas, large mats of light wood intermingled with rushes and aquatic plants covered with layers of mud dragged up from the bottom of the lake. The rafts were then deposited on marshes or shallow lake areas surrounded on all sides by canals. Here people began by cultivating corn, chili beans and flowers for religious ceremonies. At first the chinampas actually did float and could be towed around the lake, but over the centuries they gradually became fixed to the bottom. This fragile system was only threatened at the beginning of the 20th century, when Mexico City sought not only food from Xochimilco, but water too.

Fortunately, the Floating Gardens were designated part of the World Cultural Heritage by Unesco, and the Mexican government instigated a successful program in the late 1980s to pump water back in combating pollution problems at the same time. The result that local Indians have returned to cultivating their gardens, allowing tourists a glimpse of ancient Aztec traditions.

John Brunton is a free-lance journalist and photographer.



The Floating Market on the Barito river in Indonesia's Banjarmasin, which is a gateway to one of the world's largest tropical forests.

In Borneo, Bustling Port Leads to Jungle

By Marvine Howe

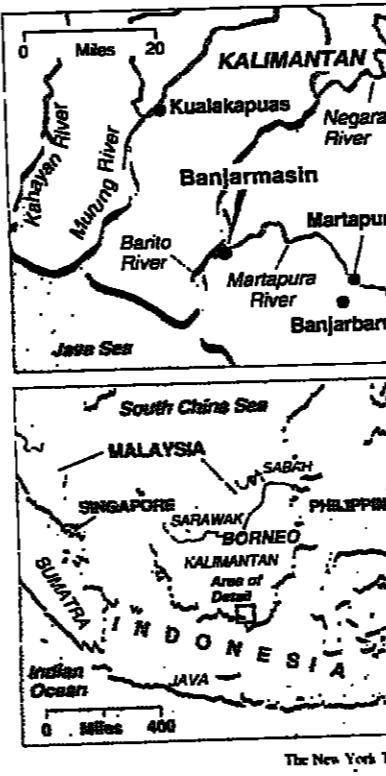
BANJARMASIN, Indonesia — They call Banjarmasin the City of Rivers, and much of its life still revolves around the waterways. Many Banjarese live in houses perched on stilts or rafts and use the rivers to bathe, wash laundry or simply get around. And every morning at sunrise, hundreds of canoes and other boats converge here to buy and sell goods at the Floating Market.

Banjarmasin is a bustling, tropical river port, ringed with plywood factories and sawmills, and gateway to one of the world's largest tropical rain forests.

Even if you're not planning to make a major jungle expedition, Banjarmasin, with about 500,000 inhabitants, is well worth a visit. Besides the river life, there are nature reserves and gene fields in the area, a fine museum, a splendid mosque, the grave of Borneo's first Muslim sultan and a grandiose new shopping mall.

Getting around the city can be an adventure. Taxis seem to specialize in trips to the airport or intercity travel. A *klotok*, a three-wheeled taxi, can be used for a longer trip, across the Martapura River to the Mitra Plaza Shopping Center and the Night Market or along the Kuin River to the grave of Sultan Suryansyah, the first Muslim king of Borneo. Visitors may have to take an *ojeck*, a motorcycle-taxi, to get through the flooded roads during a tropical rain storm, which does happen, even in the supposedly dry season from April to September.

The best way to see the city is by *klotok*, a small motorized boat so named because the water-pump engine goes tok-tok-tok. A six-seat *klotok* can be rented for about \$3 an hour at the A. Yani bridge. But visitors who are not proficient in Bahasa Indonesia, the national language, would be better off hiring an English-speaking guide. Tourism is fairly new here; relatively few people speak English and transportation ar-



The New York Times

customers living on the city's rivers and canals.

It's best to get there by about 6:30 A.M., since trading slows by 9 A.M. The market is a kind of moveable feast, with small boats bearing fish, rice, jackfruit, coconuts, cassava, chili peppers and other fresh fruits and vegetables. The eclectic fleet includes boats carrying traditional medicines, boats with sarongs and blue jeans, longboats with timber, and canoes with rattanware and brightly colored plastic pots.

There are also little café boats where you can buy tea or coffee and pastry as you watch the busy scene around you.

An excursion down the Martapura River, about an hour by *klotok* (3), takes you to a schooner dock where tall sailing ships are moored. And at the mouth of the Martapura, you can see one of the floating villages called *longhouse* — clusters of makeshift houses and shops built on rafts rather than stilts.

There are also two monkey islands in the Barito River well worth exploring. It's a 20-minute *klotok* ride to Pulau Kembang or Flower Island, a nature reserve for long-tailed monkeys. On Sundays this is a popular pilgrimage for Chinese-Indonesians, who believe they will be blessed with good fortune if they take the monkeys peanuts and fruit. The monkeys, by now tremendously spoiled, will jump into the boat and try to seize your camera or purse.

Downriver, eight miles south of Banjarmasin, lies the wilder reserve of Pulau Kaget, or Surprising Island, where the monkeys are much less presumptuous. These are long-nosed proboscis monkeys with red faces that are downright shy and will scatter at the sound of a *klotok*. They spend most of the time in the swamps, coming to the coastal mangrove trees at feeding time at dawn or early afternoon. We saw them in bunches, leaping from branch to branch but never close enough to get a decent photograph.

For many visitors, the first destination is the *pasar terapung*, the Floating Market. For more than 400 years, farmers from upriver have brought their products to Banjarmasin, buying durable goods in exchange from larger boats and floating stalls along the bank. Vendors in canoes buy the produce, which they then sell at the city market or to speedboat for longer distances.

Or you can take one of Johan Yasin's tours. Yasin and his wife, Lina, run Borneo Homestay, a travel agency that also offers guest rooms, and provides customized excursions or inexpensive group tours to the area's main sights.

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The most interesting overland excursion, arranged through Yasin for about \$15 a person and lasting five hours, is to the diamond fields of Cempaka, about 26 miles southeast of Banjarmasin, which are very accessible to visitors willing to wade through muddy streams.

Marvine Howe, a former reporter for The New York Times, wrote this for The Times.

HEAR THIS

■ In the late 1980s, the Italian designer Gaetano Pesce made a pair of interlocking plastic bottles for Vitell, the French mineral water folks. Last week they came up at auction at Bonhams in London and a North American collector paid £184 (about \$285) for them. Dinner not included.

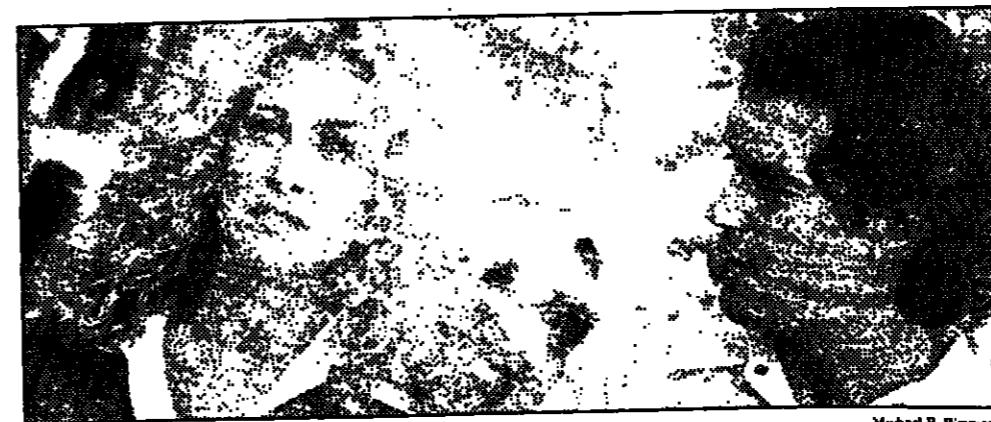
In the Mouth of Madness
Directed by John Carpenter.
U.S.

John Trent (Sam Neill), an insurance investigator, is sitting in a restaurant one day when an ax-wielding maniac comes smashing through the plate-glass window. This event helps send Trent on the trail of Sutter Cane, a wildly popular author of horror fiction, who has recently disappeared. The maniac in question turns out to be Sutter Cane's literary agent. Like many of Cane's readers, he has been driven mad by Cane's storytelling skills. "Yeah, well, you'd think a guy that outsells Stephen King would find better representation," Trent says about the agent episode.

Miami Rhapsody
Directed by David Frankel.
U.S.

The serious comedies of Woody Allen have inspired a number of entertaining homages, but none that matches "Miami Rhapsody" in thoughtfulness and emotional realism. The first feature to be written and directed by David Frankel, 35, a filmmaker from New York with a background in television, the movie might be described as "Hannah and Her Sisters" with a "thirtysomething" point of view. In its matter-of-fact view of adultery in post-sexual revolutionary times, it feels utterly contemporary in a way that Allen's movies do not. The film's funniest joke and most blatant tribute to Allen is the casting of Mia Farrow in the role of Nina Marcus, a married upper-middle-class woman of around 50 who has a brief affair with a younger man. The movie, set in Miami, examines the romantic peregrinations of a well-heeled Jewish family through the eyes of Gwyn Marcus (Sarah Jessica Parker), the second of the three grownup children of Nina and her husband, Vic (Paul Mazursky). As it jumps

THE MOVIE GUIDE



Sarah Jessica Parker and Antonio Banderas in David Frankel's "Miami Rhapsody."

Justino: Un Asesino de la Tercera Edad

Directed by Luis Guri y Santiago Aguilar, Spain.

This is a charming dark comedy about an assistant bullfighter who is forced into early retirement and becomes a murderer, kind of by accident and while testing out a sharp knife that once proved useful to finish off bulls. The directors make their film debut with a beautifully photographed, low-budget production. It was shot in 16mm and later transferred to 35mm, bringing a cozy graininess to the screen. Justino (Santiago García) is at home in the bullring and with his closest friend, who sells seat cushions at the fights, but he is uncomfortable with the modern world and can't even operate an electric can opener. Initially fed up with his yuppie son and daughter-in-law, he soon grows weary of several other people as well. Yet the directors wisely employ mostly off-screen murders, leaving compassion and humor for the scenes on camera.

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LEISURE

Japanese Dining New York-Style: A Touch of Spice at Nobu

By Patricia Wells
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Drew Niepoort — one of the city's most capable restaurateurs — is on a roll. After singular successes with prior food-business ventures (Monte Carlo and Tribeca Grill), this self-effacing, friendly gourmand has shown us once again that he knows exactly what New Yorkers want in a restaurant. Give them a touch of Hollywood, a casual decor that says DESIGN, a place that's big and loud, a chef with a name and a pedigree, table after table of celebrities, and please, don't take any of it too seriously.

His latest venture is Nobu, a Japanese restaurant open since August in a former bank building in the low-rent district of TriBeCa. Nobu takes its name from Nobuyuki Matsuhisa, a Japanese chef who cooked everywhere from Tokyo to Peru to Alaska before settling in Beverly Hills, California, where his restaurant, Matsuhisa, is considered one of the finest in the city. It's also a favorite of the actor Robert De Niro — one of Nobu's creators and co-owners — who convinced the chef to split his time between the two coasts.

Nobu is one of New York's hottest tables (reservations are taken one month in advance, to the day) and that's no surprise. Americans in general and New Yorkers in particular love a touch of

spice; a high degree of freedom in ordering; food that at least on the surface looks healthy, fat-free and without guilt.

I've been to Nobu three times, each visit sampling countless numbers of dishes, fish and shellfish that's raw, steamed, wrapped, deep-fried and baked. Taken on pure gastronomic terms, Nobu lacks the finesse, seriousness and ritual of a great Japanese restaurant in Japan. But that, in many ways, is a blessing. The tragedy of pure Japanese restaurants is that even the most knowledgeable non-Japanese will always feel out of place, off-schedule, out of the loop. So Nobu comes in as a Japanese restaurant with attitude.

Here one can be assured of forthright

Japanese food (albeit with a nod to Western tastes) and pure Western service.

The kudos here goes to Niepoort, a born-and-bred New Yorker who has his finger on the pulse. He's the quintessential restaurateur, roving from table to table with a sincere smile and corpulent ease, making everyone feel secure and just a bit special for being there.

I could go back to Nobu, again and again, to sample their appetizer of fresh soybeans boiled in the pod (better and easily as satisfying as peanuts); their spanking fresh tuna tartare, with wasabi and topped with sparkling black caviar; fluke carpaccio served with dots of fiery red pepper and leaves of fresh coriander; soul-satisfying orders of rock shrimp tempura, and a skillfully baked

black cod, fish that's first salted, then marinated in a brilliant mix of mirin, sake, sugar and miso. The sushi, sashimi and hand rolls here are clean-tasting and first-rate, thanks to the well-trained all-Japanese staff and thrice-weekly shipments of perishables from Japan.

The wine list has been masterfully selected by Daniel Johnnes, one of America's rising star sommeliers. Yet I'm drawn to sake with Japanese food, and here Nobu delivers, with an artfully refined, easy, chilled sake served from a luring, but awkward, bamboo containers.

There are elements of Nobu that bother me. The decor — lots of hard edges, raw wood, columns of birch trees flanked by wooden struts — has been universally praised, but I find it too warehouse-like,

cold and unfinished. Many of the dishes lack harmony, and a tasting menu prepared by the chef inevitably includes too many dishes marred by an excess of acid and a surfeit of salt. As a result, the experience fails to provide the spiritual, delicate balance of a Japanese meal.

Desserts are pure New York, with a fine flourless chocolate cake, a satisfying ginger crème brûlée, and a rich green-tea ice cream.

Nobu, 103 Hudson Street, New York; tel: 212-9500. Credit cards: American Express, MasterCard, Visa. Closed Saturday lunch and Sunday. \$19.95 lunch menu, \$40 tasting menu at lunch, \$60 tasting menu at dinner. *A la carte* lunch, \$30; *A la carte* dinner, \$45, not including tax, service or beverage.

THE ARTS GUIDE



From left: Portrait by Whistler, shown in Paris; portrait by F. Floris, shown in new museum in Toulouse (pictured at right); and "Grazing at Shendi," an installation by Sudanese artist Amir I. M. Nour in Washington.

AUSTRIA

Vienna
Kunsthistorisches Museum, tel: (1) 52-177-488, closed Mondays. Continuing/To March 26: "La Prima Donna Pittrice: Sofonisba Anguissola." This is the second exhibit of a series dedicated to famous women of the Renaissance.

BRITAIN

Belief
Ulster Museum, tel: (232) 38-12-51, open daily. To April 16: "Hiroshige: Japanese Woodblock Prints from the Chester Beatty Library, Dublin." More than 80 works by the Japanese of the Utagawa school.

London

Berberian Art Gallery, tel: (71) 638-4141, open daily. Continuing/To May 7: "Impressionism in Britain." The first major exhibition to examine fully the development of the Impressionist movement in Britain at the turn of the century. More than 200 works by 100 artists, including Charles Conder, Degas, Knight, Monet, Pissarro, Sickert, Sisley, Stokes and Whistler.

Hayward

Gallery, tel: (71) 638-6000, open daily, except April 14. To April 29: "Yves Klein: Leap into the Void." Features 110 works, including the "International Klein Blue" monochrome paintings, the body imprints created by nuclei used as "living brushes," fine paintings and sculptures as well as film scenarios, writings and photographic records of his provocative performances.

The National Gallery, tel: (71) 639-3321, open daily. To April 9: "Poussin: Problems, Picturesque, or connected with Poussin, who will raise problems of attribution or dating." Royal Academy of Arts, tel: (71) 48-5611, open daily. To April 8: "Nicolas Poussin." More than 80 paintings by the 17th-century French painter. Poussin drew his subject matter from biblical, historical or mythological sources. Related exhibitions are organized at the Wallace Collection and the National Gallery. The Wallace Collection, tel: (71) 635-0687, open daily. To April 8: "Dance to the Music of Time." Under the terms of Lady Wallace's bequest, this painting of Poussin's can be lent for exhibition. It is shown with its related text panels and a bronze cast of the "Borghese Dancer," the antique relief that was one of Poussin's sources of inspiration.

CANADA

Montreal
Musée des Beaux-Arts, tel: (514) 285-1500, closed Mondays. To April

CLOSING SOON

On Feb. 12: "From Gainsborough to Pre-Raphaelites: Works on Paper." Tate Gallery, London. On Feb. 12: "Christine Rossetti, 1830-1894: A Centenary Exhibition." National Portrait Gallery, London. On Feb. 12: "Asger Jorn: Retrospective." Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt. On Feb. 12: "Munch und Deutschland." Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg. On Feb. 12: "Frederick Sommer: Poetry and Logic." The J. Paul Getty Museum, Malibu, California. On Feb. 12: "Japanese Swords and Accessories." Nezu Institute of Fine Arts, Tokyo. On Feb. 12: "Silk Road Artifacts." Sogo Museum of Art, Yokohama. On Feb. 12: "Miro on Stage." Fundacio Joan Miro, Barcelona. On Feb. 15: "Master of Utrecht: 17th- to 19th-Century Paintings from the Collection of the Central Museum in Utrecht." Palace Hotel, Ten Bosch Museum, Nagasaki, Japan.

Francis Halsman, Feb. 15, 18, 20, 23, 25 and 26.

TOULOUSE

Fondation Bemberg, tel: 61-12-06-99, closed Tuesdays. In a recently restored 16th-century hotel particulier, this private collection includes paintings by 18th-century Venetian painters, portraits by Clouet and Cranach, as well as modern works by Faivre, Impressionist and post-impressionist painters.

GERMANY

Berlin
Neue Nationalgalerie, tel: (30) 266-55-53, closed Mondays. Continuing/To April 17: "George Grosz: Berlin-NYC." A retrospective of 50 paintings and 250 works on paper. Grosz was a founding member of the Dada group in Berlin in the 1920s. His works depict life in his native Berlin and in his adopted second home, New York. The exhibition will travel to Dusseldorf.

Bonn

Oper der Stadt Bonn, tel: (228) 7-26-1. "Der Rosenkavalier," directed by Gotz Friedrich, conducted by Spiros Argyris/Eduard Kohn, with Karin Armstrong/Edita Moser and Kurt Rydl/Gunter Miesenbacher. Feb. 19, 22, 26, March 2, 6, 11, 15 and 19 (performances also in May, June and July).

Cologne

Ritter-Richartz Museum, tel: (211) 221-2379, closed Mondays. Continuing/To April 2: "Maurice Denis (1870-1943)." 200 paintings, drawings and art objects, ranging from small Nabi paintings of the 1890s to large composite groups in pale colors by the French painter and illustrator. The exhibition will travel to Liverpool and Amsterdam.

Munich

Haus der Kunst, tel: (089) 21127-0, closed Mondays. To May 13: "Ernesto Spyro: The Romantic Spirit in German Art 1790-1890." Explores the romantic tradition in German art and its relationship with Modernism. Features 450 paintings, watercolors, prints and sculptures by Johann Heinrich Füssli, Caspar David Friedrich, Emile Nolde, Kandinsky, Klee, Beuys and Baselitz, among others.

Stuttgart

Staatsgalerie, tel: (711) 212-4050, closed Mondays. To May 13: "Ludwig Unger: Logos 14. Künstlerinnen aus Deutschland." Through the recent work of 14 women, an exploration of the tension existing between gender and art and of the pre-existing notions about the role of women in art.

ISRAEL

Tel Aviv Museum of Art, tel: (3) 626-1297, open daily. Continuing/To March 18: "Keith Haring." A

retrospective of the works of the American graffiti.

FRANCE

Lyon
Musée des Beaux-Arts, tel: 78-07-68-68, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To April 9: "Giacometti/Fondation Maeght." Drawings and sculptures on loan from the private art museum at Saint-Paul-de-Vence. In Southern France. Also, to April 9: "Dessein d'Ingres pour l'Age d'Or."

Marseille

Opéra de Marseille, tel: 91-33-10-50, Verdi's "Nabucco." Directed by Jacques Karpo, conducted by Michelangelo Veltri, with Leo Nucci and Paulette de Vaughn. Feb. 12, 15, 18, 21 and 23.

Paris

Bibliothèque Nationale de France, tel: (1) 40-07-81-26, closed Mondays. To April 1: "Louise Bourgeois: Estampes." More than 100 engravings by the American sculptor who found her inspiration in childhood memories.

Montréal

Musée des Arts Décoratifs, tel: (1) 44-55-57-50, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Continuing/To April 30: "Rêves d'Alcoès." A homage to the bedroom, symbol of intimacy, life and death, pain and suffering.

Louvre

Musée du Louvre, tel: (1) 40-20-51-50, closed Tuesdays. Continuing/To April 17: "Eglises du Sud-Africain sous le Règne de Louis XIV." More than 50 objects dating from 1661 to 1715 offer an original outlook on France under Louis XIV.

Paris

Musée du Luxembourg, tel: (1) 42-22-22-25, closed Mondays. To April 17: "Peintures italiennes du Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nantes." 70 works from the salient and the set-tecento, including paintings by Guido Reni, Carlo Maratta and Castiglione. Musée d'Orsay, tel: (1) 40-49-48-14, closed Mondays. To April 30: "Whistler, 1834-1903." Features 66 paintings, including "The Little White Girl" and "Portrait of the Artist's Mother." 100 drawings, engravings and watercolors, as well as 20 pastels by the American painter. Also features the renowned "Nocturne in Black and Gold" that was ridiculed by John Ruskin. The exhibition will travel to Washington.

Paris

Musée Rodin, tel: (1) 46-81-61-10, closed Mondays. To April 30: "Rodin, Whistler et la peinture." Documenting the collaboration between the sculptor, the monumental piece was left unfinished after the French sculptor's death.

Bastille

Bastille, tel: 43-43-96-96. Berlioz's "La Damnation de Faust." Directed by Luca Ronconi, conducted by Hubert Soudant, with Barbara Urias-Moroni, Thomas Moyer, Lakes, Kristinn Sigmundsson and

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Valentine message in the IHT

on Tuesday, February 14, 1995.

SWITZERLAND

Geneva

Grand Théâtre, tel: (22) 311-22-18-99, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To March 19: "Cy Twombly: A Retrospective." More than 50 paintings, 40 works on paper and a dozen sculptures by the American artist. As part of the exhibition, the Collection will open the new Cy Twombly Gallery designed by architect Renzo Piano.

Martigny

Teatro alla Scala, tel: (2) 88791. Arigo Boito "Mefistofele." Directed by Piero Alpi, conducted by Riccardo Muti with Samuel Ramey, Vincenzo La Scala, Norma Falchi and Fabio Amato. Feb. 28, March 3, 5, 8, 10 and 12.

Venice

Palazzo Ducale, tel: (41) 522-4047, open daily. Continuing/To Feb. 28: "Homage to St. Mark." Focuses on the Venetian painter, the Venetian poet and the Venetian artist.

His symbols and the diffusion of his gospel. Includes early codices, manuscripts and other objects brought from European museums and churches.

Japan

Sam Museum, tel: (6) 572-0036, closed Mondays. To April 9: "Two-Way Message: Interactive Art Exhibition, Part II." The exhibition links works of art and the viewer using the latest technology.

Tokyo

Bridgestone Museum, tel: (3) 35-03-17-00, closed Mondays. To April 2: "Renoir and Japanese Painters." Works by the French Impressionist are exhibited with those of Japanese artists such as Ryūzō and Umetaro.

National Museum of Western Art, tel: (3) 3822-5131, closed Mondays. To April 5: "German Woodcuts of the Reformation Age." 16th-century German woodprints from the Gotha City museum in Germany, including works by Dürer and Cranach, as well as political and religious satires.

MONACO

Monte-Carlo
Opera de Monte-Carlo, tel: 92-16-22-99. Gian Carlo Menotti's "The Consul," directed by Menotti, conducted by Spiros Argyris with Stephen Lusman, Leslie Guilmars and Joseph Gayer. March 3, 5 and 7.

SPAIN

Museo del Prado, tel: (34) 524-24-40, open daily. To May 21: "Klimt, Kokoschka, Schiele: Un Sueno Veneciano." More than 30 oils on canvas, created between 1898 and 1918 by the three representative figures of Viennese avant-garde.

INTERNATIONAL

Fundación Juan March, tel: (1) 43-54-24-40, open daily. To May 21: "Klimt, Kokoschka, Schiele: Un Sueno Veneciano." More than 30 oils on canvas, created between 1898 and 1918 by the three representative figures of Viennese avant-garde.

Washington

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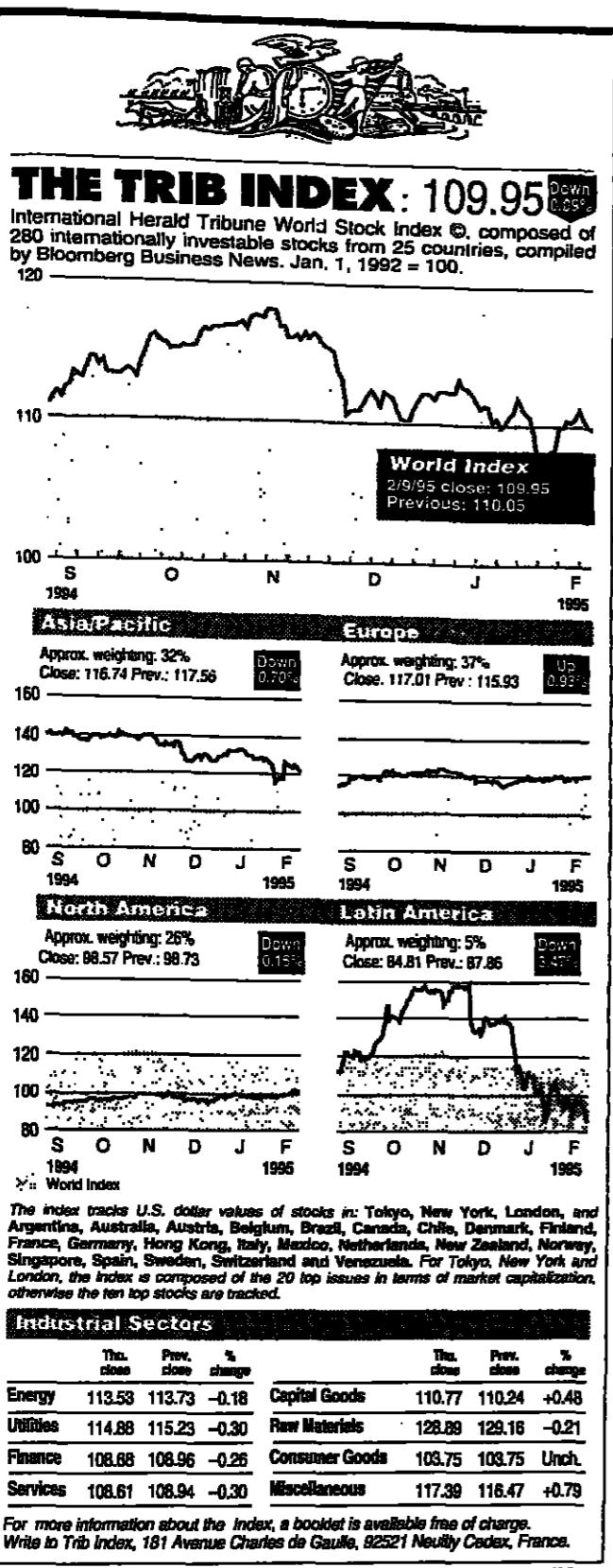
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PAGE 13



Banking Woes Hit Argentine Bourse

Reuters
BUENOS AIRES — Worries over the stability of its banking system and weakness in other Latin American markets sent Argentina's bourse sharply lower.

"The market is reeling from a stocks nosedive in Brazil and a local banking scare, and we don't know where this will end," said Alfredo Rava, a trader.

Argentina's weighted MerVal index closed at 396.77 points, down 21.14 or 5.06 percent from its close Wednesday and 10.3 percent on the week, while the country's general index was down nearly 3 percent. Brazil's Bovespa index was down nearly as much, 4.35 percent, while Mexico's Bolsa index fell 1.18 percent.

The Latin American component of the International Herald Tribune World Stock Index fell 3.47 percent.

Lawrence Malkin of the International Herald Tribune reported:

U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan appeared before the Senate Banking Committee to defend President Bill Clinton's Mexican rescue package.

Mr. Rubin said Mexico was "within days of some kind of default" when the package was unveiled last month.

In a letter to Newt Gingrich, speaker of the House of Representatives, he disclosed that Mexico would have to publish data every month on its debts and how the money is being used and may have to supply detailed information to the United States on Mexican finances as often as every week.

Mr. Greenspan called the rescue package the "least worst" alternative available.

Mr. Greenspan called the rescue package the "least worst" alternative available.

Caution on U.K. Banks

Good Profits May Presage Harder Times

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Friday marks the beginning of what promises to be a bruising month for Britain's largest banks.

That is the day Lloyds Bank PLC is widely expected to presage a round of bullish results by announcing a large profit for 1994.

Analysts expect Lloyds to announce a 20 percent jump in pretax earnings, to around £1.25 billion (\$2 billion). That would give Britain's fourth-largest bank a return on equity of better than 23 percent — a figure that Peter Thorne, an analyst with Paribas Capital Markets, called "astonishingly high." He and others noted that Continental banks typically post returns on equity of half that.

HSBC Holdings PLC, owner of Midland Bank, is expected to show 1994 pretax profit of almost £3 billion. Profit at Barclays Bank PLC, which runs Britain's largest domestic branch system, is predicted to reach almost £2.4 billion for the year.

"There will be a big who-ha over the size of these figures," said Hugh Pye, an analyst for Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Officials of the opposition Labor Party,

which is far ahead of the Tories in the polls, last month threatened the banks with a series of reforms to open up competition and improve service.

But analysts also expect to see a halving of the banks' earnings from securities transactions. They point out that, in spite of rising earnings, lending volumes have been flat, with the exception of mortgages.

"I don't think these earnings are embarrassing," said Ian McEwen, an analyst at Merrill Lynch. "What I think is embarrassing is how much money these banks lost in the last 10 years."

Many experts attribute the present high levels of profitability to the huge bad debts the banks accumulated during the recession. In an effort to restore their balance sheets, British banks took a meat cleaver to their costs, laying off thousands of staffers, shutting hundreds of branches and pushing up prices of loans.

The legacy of those measures is still very much in evidence. Mr. McEwen calculates that the margin on mortgages extended by the big banks is now 2.2 percent. "That is twice as high as I expect to be sustainable," he said.

See BANKS, Page 15

U.S. Indicts 6 Over Dealings In AT&T Stock

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Federal prosecutors Thursday indicted six people on securities-fraud charges for making what they called illegal profits on inside tips about the corporate takeover plans of AT&T Corp.

Several others, including a former AT&T labor-relations executive, were implicated in the alleged scheme, which netted \$2 million and was one of the biggest cases of Wall Street corruption since the takeover heyday of the 1980s.

The six defendants were charged with conspiracy to commit securities fraud, in connection with takeover offers, wire fraud and obstruction, Mary Jo White, a U.S. attorney, said.

The indictment says that for more than four years, the defendants were fed illicit tips about the takeover plans of the biggest U.S. long-distance telephone company and used the information to buy and sell securities for profit.

Federal law prohibits this practice, known as insider trading, which proliferated during the 1980s era of takeovers that frequently drove up the stock prices of target companies.

Between December 1988 and last year, Ms. White said, the defendants bought and sold securities of companies that AT&T planned to acquire, acting before other potential investors knew about the company's plans.

The companies targeted were Paradyne, NCR Corp., Digital Microwave Corp. and Teradata Corp.

The defendants were identified as Joseph Cusimano, William Myler, Robert Flanagan, Thomas Flanagan, Albert Brody and Robert Allen. Mr. Allen is not related to AT&T's chairman, Robert E. Allen.

Four of the six defendants

were arrested Thursday morning. If convicted of the criminal violations of securities laws, they face prison terms and fines.

The indictment also said two former AT&T employees already had pleaded guilty to criminal charges related to the scheme. They were identified as Charles Brumfield, a former labor relations manager at AT&T's Morristown, New Jersey, office, and Thomas Alger, his aide.

TCI to Sell New Shares In Two Units

The Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colorado — Tele-Communications Inc. has announced plans to distribute a new class of common stock linked to Liberty Media, its domestic programming unit, and sell shares of its international business unit to the public.

The restructuring was approved by TCI's board following its evaluation of a restructuring proposal made public late last year, the company said.

TCI, the largest U.S. cable television company, said its actions would not include distribution of additional classes of common stock for its other business groups. In November, TCI announced a plan to create stock in four of its businesses but had not decided how or when to sell the shares.

The restructuring, announced Wednesday, calls for the distribution a new class of TCI common stock intended to "track and reflect the progress" of Liberty Media. TCI said the stock would be distributed as a stock dividend to shareholders.

Saatchi Brothers Plot a Reunion

Reuters

LONDON — Charles Saatchi, who co-founded Saatchi & Saatchi in December after a shareholder revolt, Maurice was offered a diminished role but refused it.

The company is now seeking injunctions to stop Maurice Saatchi and other top executives who have quit to join his new agency from poaching more staff or clients.

Charles is president of Saatchi & Saatchi, a largely honorary role, on a £12,500 (\$43,000) salary. Four years remain on his contract, but industry sources said it would not be renewed.

A Saatchi spokesman said Charles, who does little day-to-day work but is in charge of the prestigious Silk Cut tobacco advertisements, would be held to his contract.

"He won't be joining immediately," the spokesman said. "We have no reason to sack him. He is contracted to us."

"We haven't finished having our say yet," a spokesman for Saatchi & Saatchi said.

The advertising world, fascinated by the antics of its former darling company, has been keen to know Charles's plans, questioning whether Maurice's firm would work without his brother.

Now they want to see whether the duo can work the old magic.

Maurice, the charismatic businessman, and Charles, the creative mastermind, founded Saatchi & Saatchi in 1970. Charles soon took a corporate back seat, leaving Maurice in the boardroom.

But new managers installed to turn Saatchi & Saatchi around after the brothers' acquisitive excesses of the 1980s forced Charles off the board in December 1993, sparking speculation that the siblings were plotting a partial buy-out.

Thinking Ahead / Commentary

Britain Is Shutting Itself Out of the EU

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — For much of the past millennium, Britain and France have competed to be Europe's top nation. So long as the contest was military, Britain usually came out ahead — at least in the past five centuries.

But now that the weapons are diplomatic, France's main rival — and partner — is Germany. Britain has fallen far behind in the race for European leadership.

In a recent study of France's role in Europe, Steven Philip Kramer of Washington's National Defense University concluded that "perhaps no European country has been so effective in translating its potential into political influence."

Britain has managed to achieve the opposite — no other European country has squandered so much potential political influence. And the British political establishment is once again demonstrating how that has happened as it wrangles over the next challenge on the horizon, the constitutional conference next year to review the workings of the European Union.

The chauvinism and negativity of the Conservatives — particularly among the governing Conservatives — underline how few Britons have grasped the realities of the country's declining power.

France has a notorious history of wielding the veto in EU affairs. But the French understand, in Mr. Kramer's words, that "France cannot be Europe's

political leader if it is a roadblock to, rather than a shaper of, consensus."

Britain, on the other hand, is busy putting up as many roadblocks as it can. The government is defining its position

The British government is defining its position almost entirely in terms of what it will oppose.

almost entirely in terms of what it will oppose, and Prime Minister John Major is allowing himself to be prodded by political expediency ever further into the anti-European camp.

The government has threatened to veto any changes that have "constitutional implications for Britain," even if they are needed to facilitate the EU's expansion into Central Europe, supposedly a prime British objective.

Mr. Major and his ministers say Britain will not go along with a single currency in 1997, even if its partners do so.

Britain has also made little attempt to propose anything constructive that would make Europe more united or better run. The British approach is apparently to wait and see what the others want, and then try to torpedo it.

Mr. Major, of course, is hostage to anti-Europeans in his own party whose support he needs to govern. But even the

more pro-European Labor Party is heavy on the negatives.

Robin Cook, Labor's foreign-affairs spokesman, has ruled out a common foreign and security policy, to which Britain is committed under the 1991 Maastricht Treaty, and has rejected the Maastricht criteria for economic and monetary union. Ironically, the British, who once took pride in their differences from France, are now stressing the two countries' similarities and looking for French support for their nationalistic stand. And France's governing stand are not unsympathetic.

"There is no question of isolating or rebuffing Britain," says Alain Juppé, the French foreign minister. But Britain should not delude itself. As one senior French official said, "If Britain is saying public opinion is not ready for a big new leap forward to European integration, we can agree. But if Britain is saying it wants to halt the integration process, we cannot."

The problem is that Britain's objectives are self-contradictory. It wants to remain among the leading European nations, but its negative policies are making it more likely that the others will go ahead and build Europe without it.

Former Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe was right to warn last week that if Britain makes the EU "unworkable," France, Germany and their friends "will find other solutions that exclude us." More precisely, Britain will have excluded itself.

By Diana B. Henriques
New York Times Service

SAN FRANCISCO — Confronting what is perhaps the worst financial crisis in the company's 82-year history, the directors of Morrison-Knudsen Corp. were to meet here Thursday to debate whether William Agee, the chairman and chief executive, should be required to leave immediately.

Only last week, as the company disclosed it would report a substantial loss for 1994, it offered a vague timetable for Mr. Agee to leave the company this year.

If Mr. Agee is forced to leave, it would be his second unceremonious departure from a troubled company. In 1982, after launching a corporate takeover that backed on him, he left Bendix Corp. as chairman and chief executive after it was acquired by the Allied Corp. now AlliedSignal Inc.

Morrison-Knudsen's official plan was for a search committee, which included Mr. Agee, to seek a chief executive officer to lead a turnaround of the construction and transit equipment manufacturer.

Mr. Agee, who has held his posts since 1988, planned to hold onto the chairmanship until 1998, when he turns 60.

But now some members of the board are resisting Mr. Agee's plans. That resistance reflects concern that Mr. Agee has allowed the company's business and employee mo-

rale to deteriorate, that he has not kept directors and shareholders adequately informed about its problems and that he has been remiss in attempting to cope with the troubles of the company — which is based in Boise, Idaho — from his seaside estate in Pebble Beach, California.

"Succession is the key issue, and that has been accelerated," one individual close to the board said.

Noted that several directors believed the company must act quickly to reassure its bank lenders and its employees — "all its constituents, really" — that new leadership is in place to cope with the situation.

According to several people close to the board, opposition to Mr. Agee is led by two notable newcomers to the board, William Clark, a national security adviser under President Ronald Reagan, and Zbigniew Brzezinski, who held the same job under President Jimmy Carter.

Both joined the board last year and have been known to have pressed Mr. Agee and senior Morrison-Knudsen executives for better information about the company's mounting troubles.

A spokesman for Mr. Agee said Wednesday that he was not available for interviews.

On the New York Stock Exchange, Morrison-Knudsen fell 25 cents to \$9.625. The

UBS Takes Offensive In War With BK Vision

Bloomberg Business News

ZURICH — After losing two court decisions in as many weeks, Union Bank of Switzerland took the offensive Thursday, drawing Montres Rolex SA into its legal battle with BK Vision AG, the bank's largest shareholder.

Following a court decision on Wednesday that blocked, at least temporarily, the introduction of BK Vision's controversial new share structure, the bank said BK Vision exceeded its 5 percent voting limit during a Nov. 22 shareholder meeting that narrowly approved the plan.

Rolex owns 27.8 percent of BK Vision, an investment company controlled by the financier Martin Ebner. UBS alleges that Rolex and BK Vision voted as a block, exceeding BK Vision's voting limit for registered shares. Both BK Vision and Rolex denied they could be considered as a block.

BK Vision contends UBS's plan to unify the bank's dual share structure unjustly dilutes the value of registered shares. BK Vision controls 18 percent of UBS registered shares and 2.7 percent of the bearer shares.

Technology Stocks Outshine Others

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
NEW YORK — Stocks closed mixed Thursday, with technology issues offering the only bright spot in an otherwise lackluster market.

Stocks also responded to a drop in the bond market, where the price of the 30-year Treasury bond fell 13/32 to 97

U.S. Stocks

29/32, bringing its yield up to 7.68 percent from 7.64 percent Wednesday.

Investors were cautious ahead of the release Friday of January producer-price data, a key inflation indicator.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 2.69 points to 3,932.68, but advancing issues outnumbered declining ones on the New York Stock Exchange by a 11-to-10 margin.

"Technology is stealing the show," said Philip Orlando, a fund manager at First Capital Advisers. "A lot of companies are upgrading their technology to improve productivity so as not to increase prices and lose market share."

Apple Computer rose 1 5/16 to 43¢; International Business Machines rose 3/16 to 75, while Compaq Computer gained 3/16 to 37¢. Semiconductor companies, which stand to gain if

putter sales increase, also advanced. Intel rose 7/16 to 77¢, Texas Instruments surged 3 3/16 to 78 7/8, and Micron Technology jumped 2 1/4 to 50¢.

Shares of Amgen took a roller-coaster ride. The biotechnology company's shares first gained amid speculation that Bristol-Myers Squibb was in talks to buy it, then fell after Bristol-Myers denied the rumor. Amgen was the most active issue on the Nasdaq market.

Telefones de Mexico was the most active issue on the New York Stock Exchange. American depository receipts representing shares in the Mexican phone company fell 1/4 to 32 1/2.

Friday's producer-price report will give investors clues about whether inflation is slowing and whether interest rates are going to stabilize, traders said.

Higher rates hurt stocks because they raise the cost of borrowing, cutting into corporate profits. They also encourage people to put their money in fixed-rate investments that are perceived as less risky than stocks.

"The key is going to be tomorrow's number," Greg Riley of CS First Boston said. "If it's lower than expected, I think the market will continue to advance." (AP, Bloomberg)

Dollar Under Pressure Before Producer Prices

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The dollar slipped against most other major currencies Thursday amid speculation that the producer price report on Friday could reignite inflation concerns and derail recent stock and bond rallies.

The dollar's fate has been tied to the asset markets since a

Foreign Exchange

weaker-than-expected employment report last week eased inflation concerns and sent bonds higher.

Strong demand for U.S. assets often helps the dollar because foreigners must buy dollars to invest in stocks and bonds.

Those rallies could sputter if the producer price report shows inflation to be accelerating, traders said.

The dollar closed at 1.5283 Deutsche marks, down from 1.5305 DM on Wednesday, and

at 98.895 yen, down from 98.925 yen.

The dollar also weakened to 5,286.00 French francs from 5,294.95 francs and fell to 1,293.50 Swiss francs from 1,295.50 francs.

The pound rose to \$1.5575 from \$1.5537.

The focus is on the PPI numbers tomorrow," said Brian Hilliard, international economist at Societe Generale Strauss-Turnbush. "The sentiment in the U.S. market is very confident that inflation is under control.

Anything that causes people to revise their forecast will therefore have a big impact."

A big rise in producer prices "will be very bad for bonds and very bad for the dollar," said David De Rosa, director of foreign exchange trading at Swiss Bank Corp. That would prompt speculation that the Federal Reserve Board will raise interest rates again, traders said.

The Economics Ministry and Crédit Lyonnais both declined to comment.

The provisions for losses will reduce the

NASDAQ Most Actives

Vol. High Low Last Chg.

Amgen 100,900 7354 6754 7154 +14

Intel 70,956 7874 7474 7674 +14

Novell 52,671 1,195 1,175 1,195 +1

Alcatel 40,240 5015 4815 5015 +2

Motorola 32,678 2,105 2,075 2,105 +1

AT&T 21,103 625 615 625 +1

Comshare 20,253 2,115 2,085 2,115 +1

Grivnet 19,651 3915 3815 3915 +1

Worlcom 18,201 2415 2335 2415 +1

Merck 17,942 4275 4255 4275 +1

IBM 16,995 7314 7154 7314 +1

AT&T 16,720 245 235 245 +1

Microsoft 15,250 2,125 2,095 2,125 +1

Genentech 14,749 1,125 1,105 1,125 +1

Qualcomm 14,245 1,125 1,105 1,125 +1

Motorola 13,845 1,125 1,105 1,125 +1

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Price Cuts Take Toll at BT Tougher Regulation Blamed for Profit Drop

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — British telecommunications PLC said Thursday that its third-quarter profit fell 5.4 percent as price cuts enforced by regulators took their biggest toll yet on Britain's largest company.

BT said pretax profit for the three months ended Dec. 31 fell to £660 million (\$1 billion) from £699 million in the same period in 1993. Revenue rose 1 percent, to £3.47 billion.

BT said nine-month pretax profit fell 2 percent, to £2.15 billion, on a 1.2 percent rise in revenue, to £10.32 billion.

The company said a 7 percent increase in domestic call volume for the nine months was

more than taken up by £470 million in revenue reduction from price cuts.

BT said it expected to make further price cuts, totaling £150 million, in the coming months in response to regulatory demands. The company said the cuts might further squeeze profit for the year.

Chairman Sir Iain Vallance said BT was "in a sound financial state" but faced an "increasingly unpredictable" British regulatory climate.

The Office of Telecommunications, Britain's telecommunications regulator, has stepped up pressure to level the playing field with competitors by, among

other measures, publishing the prices it charges for connection to the BT network, the only telecommunications infrastructure in Britain.

On Thursday, Mercury Communications Ltd., BT's main rival, won clearance from the House of Lords to sue the regulators to change the way connection charges are calculated.

BT's share of the British retail telephone market fell to 88 percent in the year ended in March 1994 from 90 percent a year earlier, according to new data from the regulators. Mercury's market share rose to 10 percent from 9 percent.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

Ericsson Sets Record With Profit

Bloomberg Business News

STOCKHOLM — Shares in LM Ericsson AB climbed 4 percent Thursday after the company posted a 70 percent rise in fourth-quarter pretax profit and record 1994 earnings.

The company said its pretax profit rose to 2.12 billion kronor (\$284 million) in the fourth quarter from 1.25 billion kronor a year earlier.

Net profit, however, fell 13 percent to 1.66 billion kronor, because Ericsson had a tax credit of 654 million kronor in the fourth quarter of 1993. Sales rose 36 percent, to 27.98 billion kronor.

For the full year, pretax profit rose 80 percent, to 5.61 billion kronor, and net profit rose 38 percent, to 3.94 billion kronor. Annual sales increased to 82.55 billion kronor from 62.95 billion kronor.

The result was higher than analysts expected, and the company's B shares climbed to 427.50 kronor from 412 kronor. Ericsson's board proposed raising the dividend for 1994 to 5.5 kronor a share from 4.5 kronor.

Ericsson also said it would propose a 4-for-1 stock split at its shareholders' meeting May 10.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

Kansallis to Merge With Union Bank

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HELSINKI — Unitas Ltd., the parent company of Union Bank of Finland Ltd., said Thursday it would merge with Kansallis-Osake-Pankki to form Finland's largest commercial bank.

The merged banking company would be one of the largest in Scandinavia, with more than 3 million retail customers, 150,000 corporate customers and total assets of about 300 billion markkaa (\$63.5 billion).

Kansallis will own 42 percent of the new company, and Unitas will own 58 percent, Unitas said. The name of the new bank has not yet been chosen.

Vesa Vainio, the president of Unitas, will be president of the new holding company. Pertti Voutilainen, his counterpart at Kansallis, will serve as chief executive of the new bank.

Current Kansallis shares will be exchangeable into shares of the new company on a 3-for-1 basis.

Trading in the shares of the two companies was suspended Thursday, but Kansallis closed at 4.37 markkaa Wednesday, with Unitas' A shares at 11.30.

"If the merger goes ahead, the new bank will have an extraordinary dominant position in the Finnish banking system," IBCA, the European credit-ratings company, said.

"Although the challenge of merging the two largest Finnish banks, which are a similar size, should not be underestimated," IBCA confirmed the long-

Investor's Europe

Frankfurt	London	Paris
DAX	FTSE 100 Index	CAC 40
230	330	2100
220	320	2000
210	310	1900
200	300	1800
1900 SOND JF 1994	2000 SOND JF 1994	1700 SOND JF 1994
1994	1995	1995
Exchange	Index	Index
Amsterdam	AEX	Thursday
Brussels	Stock Index	Close
Frankfurt	DAX	Close
Helsinki	FAZ	Change
London	Financial Times 30	+0.28
London	FTSE 100	7,072.12
Madrid	General Index	2,112.60
Milan	MIBTEL	784.27
Paris	CAC 40	1,853.93
Stockholm	SX 16	2,357.90
Vienna	ATX Index	3,099.00
Zurich	SBS	1,850.95
		3,072.50
		+0.64
		1,850.91
		+1.27
		1,803.11
		+1.63
		947.58
		+3.71
		920.73
		+0.52

Sources: Reuters, AFP

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• Audi AG, a unit of Volkswagen AG, said the introduction of three new models resulted in a 7.3 percent sales increase, to 13.5 billion Deutsche marks (\$9 billion) and a 1994 profit, compared with a loss of 89 million DM in 1993.

• BOC Group PLC, a British industrial gas producer, said first-quarter pretax profit was £89.4 million (\$140 million), before exceptional items, on rising sales of gas and related products.

• Dassault Aviation SA sales fell 6.8 percent in 1994, to 12.4 billion French francs (\$2 billion) from 13.3 billion francs, but orders grew 38 percent, to 18 billion francs.

• Reckitt & Colman PLC turned down an offer from Groupe Danone for its Colmans of Norwich Foods because the French company would not guarantee to keep production in Norwich for five years, according to reports.

• Sté. Nationale d'Exploitation Industrielles des Tabacs & des Alumettes SA's offer of 13.3 million shares of the state-owned tobacco monopoly to institutional investors was 9.2 times over-subscribed, the French finance minister said.

• Klöckner-Humboldt-Deutz AG said most of its creditor banks had agreed to the German engine maker's capital restructuring plan proposed last week.

• National Express Group PLC, a British bus company, has agreed to buy Bournemouth International Airport PLC from local authorities for £7.1 million.

• Svenska Cellulosa AB, a Swedish forestry company, will sell its personal-care unit, Mochlycke Toiletries AB, to Cedervall International AB, a unit of Alberto-Culver Co., for about 350 million kronor (\$47 million). Separately, SCA had a one-time gain of 750 million kronor on the sale of its 3.4 percent stake in Modo AB, a paper producer.

• Metallgesellschaft AG, the German metal and mining company, consolidated all its secondary lead smelting operations under its Rheinisch Zinkgesellschaft GmbH subsidiary.

• Dutch corporate profits this year are expected to rise an average of about 14 percent from last year, ABN Amro Bank NV said.

(AFX, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

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(AFX, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

Acquisitions Lift VIAG's Net

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MUNICH — VIAG AG said Thursday that its operating profit doubled in 1994, to 850 million Deutsche marks (\$554 million), capping a year of aggressive acquisitions that lifted sales by 22 percent.

The company did not give a specific, comparable profit figure for 1993, saying a flurry of acquisitions and sales last year had made direct comparison impossible.

VIAG said 1994 sales rose to 28.9 billion DM from 23.7 billion DM. The company said it would recommend raising its

dividend to 10 DM a share from 9 DM in 1993.

VIAG attributed the rise in sales to an increase in demand and the "effect of consolidations and acquisitions," especially its purchase of a controlling stake in Bayernwerk AG, southern Germany's leading electricity producer.

VIAG did not list Bayernwerk's results separately but said it expected "a certain improvement in results during 1995," when Bayernwerk's earnings will be included for a full year.

Roland Pitz, an analyst with

Bayerische Hypotheken & Wechsel-Bank AG, said VIAG's results showed its reorganization was paying off. The company shed less profitable units last year to enter promising fields such as telecommunications and food.

The important thing here is that VIAG's earnings have improved across the board," Mr. Pitz said. "I think this reflects positively on the company's reorganization strategy."

The results sent VIAG's shares up to 504.00 DM from 497.80 DM on Wednesday.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

Germany Posts Slower Inflation

Reuters

WIESBADEN, Germany — West German inflation fell to its lowest level in four and a half years in January but exceeded the rate in Eastern Germany for the first time since unification, the government said Thursday.

West German inflation stood at an annual rate of 2.3 percent in January, outpacing the East German rate, which was 1.8 percent, for the first time since unification.

West German prices rose 0.5 percent in January from December, compared with a 0.2 percent month-on-month rise in December.

Wilhelm Paellmann, the national phone company's acting

chief executive, said cost-cutting and a 21 percent rise in East German sales had helped the company's bottom line.

Sales in all of Germany rose 8.5 percent, to 64 billion DM from 59 billion DM. The number of single phone lines in Eastern Germany rose 35 percent, to more than 3.5 million.

The result came as Deutsche Telekom awaited deregulation of the German phone system by 1998 and its own sale to private investors beginning next year.

Deutsche Telekom said 34 percent of East Germans had their own private telephone lines.

Sweden Raises Rates, Bolstering Its Markets

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

STOCKHOLM — A decision by the central bank to raise interest rates for the third time in six months boosted Sweden's financial markets Thursday.

The Riksbank said it had raised the lending rate to 8.50 percent from 8 percent and the deposit rate to 6.50 percent from 6 percent, effective next Wednesday. It also raised the repurchase rate to 7.80 percent from 7.60 percent, effective Tuesday.

"This is a part of Deutsche Telekom's deregulation of the German phone system by 1998 and its own sale to private investors beginning next year.

He predicts a "long slide" in profits beginning in 1996, based

on increasing competition in what remains a heavily overbanked market.

"I am pretty gloomy on the banks," Mr. McEwen of Merrill Lynch said.

He predicts a "long slide" in profits beginning in 1996, based

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INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

CURRENCY AND CAPITAL MARKET SERVICES

SABEX FUTURES LIMITED

SFA &

NASDAQ

Thursday's 4 p.m.
This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

AMEX

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	55	100s	High	Low	Loctd	Chg
A												
B												
9 7% AIM Str	.50	.24					88	81/4	8	81/4		
12/4 27 ALC				17	17/4		20/4	27/4	27/4	26/4		
12/4 81/4 AM Int'l				9	25		8/4	81/4	81/4	81/4		
13/4 3% AM Int'l				20	46		12/4	13/4	13/4	12/4		
26/4 20% AMG pf	1.75	.49					25/4	30/4	30/4	29/4		
7/4 2 ARC				4	44/4		25/4	25/4	25/4	25/4		
7/4 3 ART Hdq				4	9		7/4	7/4	7/4	7/4		
27/4 20% ART F pf	2.38	10/4					58	52/4	52/4	52/4		
6/4 61/4 ATT Fd	2.74/4	4.1					24/4	67/4	67/4	67/4		
8/4 5% AckCom				18			15	7/4	7/4	7/4		
3/4 2% Acme							15	3/4	3/4	3/4		
1/4 1% Action				13			14	1/4	1/4	1/4		
10/4 4% Admetrec				13			15	1/4	1/4	1/4		
3/4 1% AdmTran				13			16	1/4	1/4	1/4		
1/4 11/4 AdmTran				13			17	1/4	1/4	1/4		
4/4 1% AdmTran				13			18	1/4	1/4	1/4		
10/4 5% AdmTran pf				13			19	1/4	1/4	1/4		
4 1% AdmPhot				13			20	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 4% AdWor				13			21	1/4	1/4	1/4		
4/4 2% AirCare				13			22	1/4	1/4	1/4		
3/4 2% Airco				13			23	1/4	1/4	1/4		
7/4 5% Alcamco				13			24	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 9/4 Alcatel				13			25	1/4	1/4	1/4		
13/4 13/4 Alcatel H				13			26	1/4	1/4	1/4		
8/4 5/4 Alcatel H				13			27	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			69	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			70	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			71	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			72	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			73	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			74	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			76	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			77	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			78	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			79	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			80	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			81	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			82	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			83	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			84	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			85	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			86	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			87	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			88	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			89	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			90	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			91	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			92	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			93	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			94	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			95	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			96	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			97	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			98	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			100	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			101	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			103	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			104	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			105	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			106	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			107	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			108	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			109	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			115	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			116	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			117	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			119	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			121	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			122	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			124	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			125	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			126	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			127	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			128	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			129	1/4	1/4	1/4		
14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			130	1/4	1/4	1/4		
12/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			131	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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14/4 14/4 Alcatel H				13			134	1/4	1/4	1/4		
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Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 percent or more has been paid, the year's high-low range and dividends are shown for the new stock. The new stock symbol is in parentheses.

dividend are shown for the new stock only. Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration.

- b—annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend.
- c—Liquidating dividend.
- cd—called.
- d—new year-to-low.
- e—dividend redeclaration.

8 — dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months.
 9 — dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax.
 10 — dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend.

— dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend.
— dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting.
K— dividend declared or paid this year, on accumulated or
newly-issued stock.

nd — next day delivery.
P/E — price-earnings ratio.
r — dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus
stock dividend.

Stock Dividend.
A — stock split. Dividend begins with date of split.
B — sales.
C — dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, plus
stock value.

1/2 cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date.
1/4 u — new yearly high.
1/5 v — trading halted.
1/6 vi — in bankruptcy or reorganization.

vi - in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies.
vd - when distributed

wd — when distributed.
wi — when issued.
ww — with warrants.
x — ex-dividend or ex-rights.

ex — ex-dividend or ex-rights.
exdls — ex-distribution.
nw — without warrants.
y — ex-dividend and sales in full.
wid — yield.

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SPORTS

For Snooker's Champ, No Pound Signs on the PocketsBy Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Two weeks before his 13th birthday, Stephen Hendry's parents gave him a miniature snooker table for Christmas. Thirteen years later, that table has made him a millionaire. He is a Scot with short blond hair, cowlicks and Charlie Chaplin's build, and he is the best snooker player in the world. "It was a complete fluke," he said. "I'd never played before. I'd never watched it on TV. I was walking by one of the shops with my mother and I guess I saw one in the window and told her, 'That would be nice to have one of those.'"

The table lived with him in his small bedroom. It was about one-fourth the size of an adult snooker table, and to avoid scuffing the wall he would have to jab down on the cue ball. Within four months his talent had outgrown the surroundings and he began playing at something called the Malocos Snooker Club.

Billiards has the image of a seedy, city game played by sharks, career drinkers, talented losers — but more genteel than boxing. Malocos was that kind of forgettable place. Hendry played there for only a little while, but he recalls that the balls weren't all the same shade of red, and the players didn't seem to have anywhere better to go. Hendry did, to a nicer club — and he isn't romantic about Malocos, though it sounds like one of those pool halls from "The Hustler," in which Paul Newman shot it out with Jackie Gleason as Minnesota Fats.

"I've never seen it," Hendry said of the movie.

What? Every priest reads the Bible.

"Everyone says I should," he said. "But I keep missing it when it's on TV, and you can't seem to buy it on video."

He seems to have passed through Malocos without meeting a role model. Lucky him. In those days, Hendry could barely see over the table. He dropped out of school a few months early, his teachers predicting failure.

He was professional at 16. The other top Scottish players were systematically challenged to matches against the future world No. 1, with manager, Ian Doyle, staking up to £1,000 on Hendry. Anyone who ever saw "The Hustler" might view this as his romantic period. Minnesota Fats, Willie Mosconi, every legend made his name that way — making darts in another man's club, risking his own money, whiskey on the breath.

It must have been something. "Generally, I lost," Hendry said. "I probably lost 5,000 or 6,000 pounds."

How did Doyle react to that?

"I don't think you could print it," Hendry said. "He was pretty upset, but playing money matches didn't give me a buzz. I like the money now, but for me it's always been titles. The money is a nice bonus at the end, but I've never seen pound signs at the backs of the pockets."

Hendry's winnings last year amounted to £419,770, which is slightly over \$650,000. He has held 51 major titles since he became the youngest to win one at 19; he was 21, another record, when he won the first of his four world championships. His main desire is to overtake the record of six world titles held by Steve Davis, who currently is ranked No. 2 in the world, behind Hendry.

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Hendry travels as far as Asia to compete in 15 or 16 tournaments per year. In between exhibitions a year, nor does he seem to have time for the competitive side.

He won his third consecutive world championship last year despite a hairline fracture of his left elbow suffered midway through the second round. In Minnesota Fats' day, it would have happened at 3 A.M. in an alley; what happened to Hendry was that, barefooted, he slipped in the bathroom. Returning to bed, he awoke the next morning with his arm swollen stiff. The elbow was drained of fluid at the hospital, allowing him to bend his support arm enough to lean his hand flat on the table, and he won all seven frames that night. He went on to beat his teenage hero, Jimmy White, by 18-17 over two days in the final.

"I don't think about snooker when I'm not playing or practicing," Hendry said. "I like to think of it as a job, where I go in the same time every day. Usually I go to the club in the morning around 10 and play until around 5 P.M., with a break for lunch. I just play in the club next to all the members, but it's quiet during the day. Some- times it can be a bit of drudgery, because there's nothing more I can learn on the technical side. But I love playing from the competitive side."

It's the same £50 cue Hendry has owned since he was 14. "All the players who see it think it's a terrible cue. They don't know how I can play with it. Most cues are made of ash, but mine's maple — more whippy."

"When mine was stolen, I had another cue flown down. It was an exact replica to the one I had, the same dimensions, the same weight, but I couldn't pot a ball with it. That's true for most of the players — very few can change their cue. Now, obviously, I don't let it out of my sight for a minute."

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NBA Comes Down Hard on Maxwell

The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, California — Vernon Maxwell, the volatile player whose aggressive play has often won games for the Houston Rockets, has been suspended for at least 10 games and fined \$20,000 by the National Basketball Association for going into the stands and punching a spectator.

The fine matched the highest in league history. The suspension was the second longest.

Maxwell said Thursday that he will appeal.

Rod Thorn, the NBA's vice president for operations, said Wednesday that the incident, which occurred during a game in Portland two nights earlier, was unprecedented.

"We've never had anybody go into the stands, unless it was a fight among players that spilled over into the seats," he said.

Maxwell must meet with NBA officials during his suspension. A decision will then be made regarding his return to active status after 10 games have passed.

The suspension, without pay, began with Wednesday night's game in Sacramento. Maxwell's ejection from the Portland game carried an additional, automatic \$1,000 fine.

Maxwell left the team Wednesday afternoon, and team officials said they did not know where he was.

His teammates declined to comment on the suspension. The star center, Hakeem

Olajuwon, said, "I want to comment when there's good news." Thorn announced the decision after league officials examined videotape from a freelance television cameraman. People who had seen the video said it clearly shows Maxwell connecting with right-handed punch to the jaw of the spectator, Steve George.

Maxwell, who has a notoriously bad temper, went a dozen rows into the stands to get at George, 35, during the third quarter of Houston's 120-82 loss to Portland.

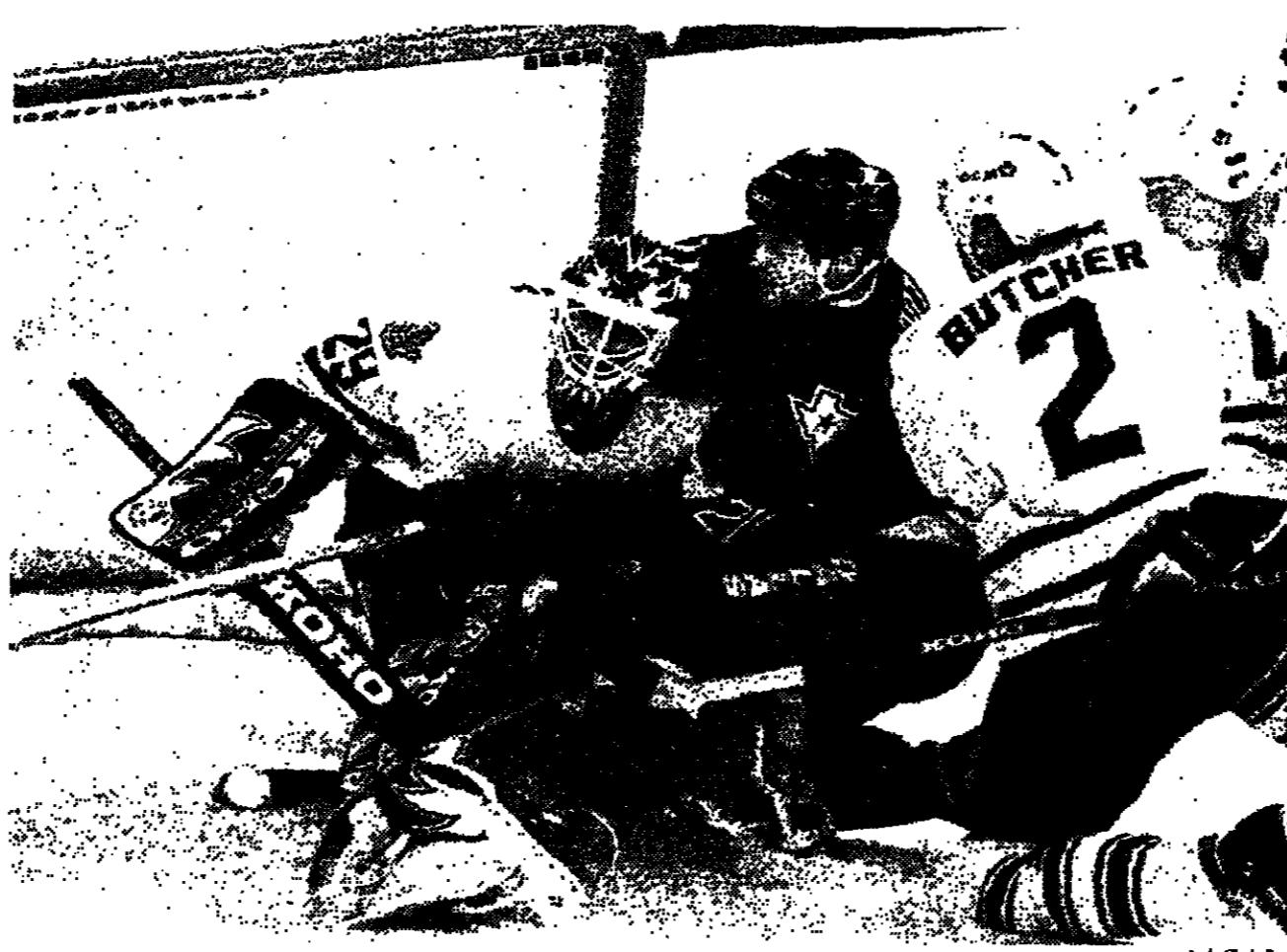
The only longer suspension in league history was that of Kermit Washington. He was suspended for 26 games during the 1977-78 season for punching an opposing player, Rudy Tomjanovich, who is now the Rockets' coach.

"We understand that Max's return depends on appropriate behavior and his meeting with league officials," Tomjanovich said. "In the meantime, he will continue to be a part of our team at practice and at team meetings. I look forward to him getting this resolved with the league."

Three other players have been fined \$20,000: Bill Laimbeer (1990), Charles Barkley (1990) and Greg Anthony (1993).

Barkley also was fined \$10,000 and suspended for a game in 1991 for spitting at fans. The target was a heckler but he hit an 8-year-old girl instead.

His teammates declined to comment on the suspension. The star center, Hakeem



Mats Sundin (right) came to the aid of the Leaf's goalie, Felix Potvin, before he beat the Stars with 1.6 seconds to play.

Rockets Win Anyway, As Olajuwon Steps In

The Associated Press

Playing without their second-leading scorer didn't bother the Houston Rockets. Because their No. 1 scorer, Hakeem Olajuwon, was at his best.

Olajuwon had 31 points and matched his season highs with 17 rebounds and eight blocks Wednesday night as the defending NBA champions posted a 97-86 victory over the Kings in Sacramento.

It was Houston's first game since guard Vernon Maxwell

highest scoring tandem, were held to a total of 19 before setting out the fourth quarter.

Celtics 75, Cavaliers 67: After scoring only 25 points in the first half, Boston came back to win the defensive duel.

Several records were set: The 67 points matched the fewest ever in a game by Cleveland, and both teams tied franchise marks for fewest points in a half. After Boston got only 25 in the first half, Cleveland scored only 27 in the second.

Knicks 96, Pacers 77: Patrick Ewing had 24 points, a season-high 22 rebounds and five blocks as visiting New York beat Indiana for the 12th time in their last 13 regular-season meetings.

John Starks also had 24 points, including five 3-pointers, for the visiting Knicks, who overcame an early 14-point deficit. Reggie Miller scored 22 points for Indiana.

Lakers 115, Spurs 99: Anthony Peeler scored 14 of his 26 points in the last quarter as Los Angeles ended San Antonio's eight-game winning streak.

Blade Divac had 25 points, 15 rebounds and 8 assists for the Lakers, who won their third in a row without two-thirds of their starting frontcourt.

The Spurs' center, David Robinson, left the game with a mild sprain of his right ankle in the third quarter, and teammate Dennis Rodman was ejected in the fourth quarter after being called for a flagrant foul.

Amid Power Plays, Sundin Takes It Easy

The Associated Press

On a night of down-to-the-wire finishes in the National Hockey League, there wasn't a game more dramatic than the one between the Toronto Maple Leafs and Dallas Stars.

"We played a strong game but I wish the game had started two seconds earlier," the Stars' coach, Bob Gainey, said following a 3-3 tie in Toronto.

The Maple Leafs salvaged the draw when Mats Sundin flipped the puck over sprawled goaltender Andy Moog with 1.6 seconds left in regulation.

"I think there were four guys laying on top of (teammate Dave) Andreychuk and they didn't pay too much attention to me," Sundin said.

With Toronto goaltender Felix Potvin on the bench in favor of an extra attacker, the Leafs had blitzed the Dallas crease. Moog was lying along the goal line as the puck bounced around at the front of the crease. Sundin, free to one side, lifted it under the crossbar just before time expired.

The Stars had lost four of

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their five previous games, so they were happy with the point.

"We've got to walk before we can run," Moog said. "We've had a tough time lately so I think that's a good point for us, no matter how it ended."

Jets 3, Oilers 3: Teemu Selanne's tying goal in Edmonton was his second of the game, both coming on the power play, and gave him 17 points, for a tie with Quebec's Joe Sakic as the NHL scoring leader.

Rangers 5, Capitals 4: In New York, the home team won as Brian Leetch scored on a power play with 4:19 left.

Leetch's game-winner, and his first goal of the season, capped a rally that saw the Rangers come back twice from a two-goal deficit, with the 28 team owners continue their impasse and a second season of baseball is even more seriously imperiled.

Canadiens 4, Senators 2: In Ottawa, Brian Bellows continued his scoring binge with two goals for Montreal. The veteran left wing, scoreless through the first six games, has five goals in his last three.

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